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Clark, Peter Wellington.

Delta shadows

Delta Shadows

"A Pageant of Negro Progress in New Orleans"

by

Peter Wellington Clark

Editor, "Arrows of Gold," and Author of "Faith," "Crispus Attucks,"
"The Laborer," "New Orleans," and many other poems and essays

Illustrated by Numa Joseph Roussève

*

GRAPHIC ARTS STUDIOS

1942

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by

PETER WELLINGTON CLARK

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"A simple story in words and pictures of the Negro in New Orleans — his contributions, hopes, dreams, and aspirations; a saga of the Silver Linings behind the Delta Shadows."

Dedicated to

My mother, Lurania Evelyn Clark, whose
patience, kindness and devotion will always
be a source of inspiration to me.

Some day we shall work out the problems of our great country . . . Some day our little children will not slave in mines and mills, but will have some chance at the glory of God's creation; and some day the Negro will cease to be a problem and become a human being.

—BENJAMIN BRAWLEY

FOREWORD

*"Hope, like the gleaming taper's light,
Adorns and cheers our way;
And still, as darker grows the night,
Emits a brighter ray."*

—GOLDSMITH

This is a story of the Negro in New Orleans, his dreams, his hopes, his aspirations. The author has attempted to show the flight, not the plight, of the Colored Citizen in New Orleans; he has tried to show the progress and achievement that a minority group, in a typically southern, urban setting, is making despite external barriers which impede its march forward. This, he has essayed to do without malice or bitterness, but in a calm, dispassionate sense of investigation and appraisal.

Naturally, the author, with the limited means at his disposal, does not lay claim to have made any far-reaching survey or inexhaustible research. He has merely endeavored to present a "cross section" of Negro life in New Orleans in the hope that it might serve to mirror the thoughts and deeds of over 150,000 men, women and children of Negro descent. The historical incidents cited, and the economic and social data, which have been interpolated, have been presented with one view-point in mind: a clearer, more logical understanding of the background and the socio-economic status of the Negro in New Orleans and a fuller, more complete interpretation of the role that he is portraying in the unfoldment of this segment of America.

Material has been gleaned from many diverse sources. In some instances information has been obtained from various books, magazines and documents related to the subject; in other cases the author has gained his data from twenty-seven years' of contact and experience with the customs and traditions of the Southland.

Nor has the author proposed any basic solution to the multiple problems which exist; neither is it his purpose to bewail or bemoan existing conditions. However, wherever and whenever possible, he has tried to inject certain philosophical values which both races must pursue and respect if greater inter-racial and intra-racial harmony will ever be effected.

The author has confined his arena to today. He has tried to show what the Negro is doing and thinking now. He has concentrated on the productive, resourceful side of Negro life as he realized the extent to which the negative and sterile side of Negro life has been emphasized, and in many instances presented in an abortive light.

In the pure sense of the word, the author does not wish this book to be looked upon as a classical biography or a university dissertation. His primary aim has been to depict the status of the Negro in New Orleans, in such a manner, as to reflect his growth and progress despite adverse circumstances.

If this volume can lift up eyes to the new day which is dawning—a day of closer cooperation and greater understanding between all races and nationalities; if this book can lift up souls to new levels of inspiration; if this book can help people, throughout the length and breadth of America, to recognize the Negro's rights and to better appreciate his talents and ambitions—then the author shall feel that rare sense of enjoyment which comes with the fulfilling of one's aims.

—THE AUTHOR

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen."

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to my friends and well-wishers, whose faith and confidence in my ability encouraged me to proceed with the publication of this modest volume.

I am, in an especial sense, grateful to the following individuals for the unselfish interest they have manifested in this undertaking: Charles B. Roussève, a true scholar; Armand V. Boutté, Jr., whose printing and engraving establishment executed this work, and Numa J. Roussève, Fine Arts Instructor of Xavier University, whose graphic illustrations lend color to the pages of this book.

Upon this occasion, I wish to heartily thank, also, any groups or individuals whose reviews or criticisms may motivate the success of this enterprise.

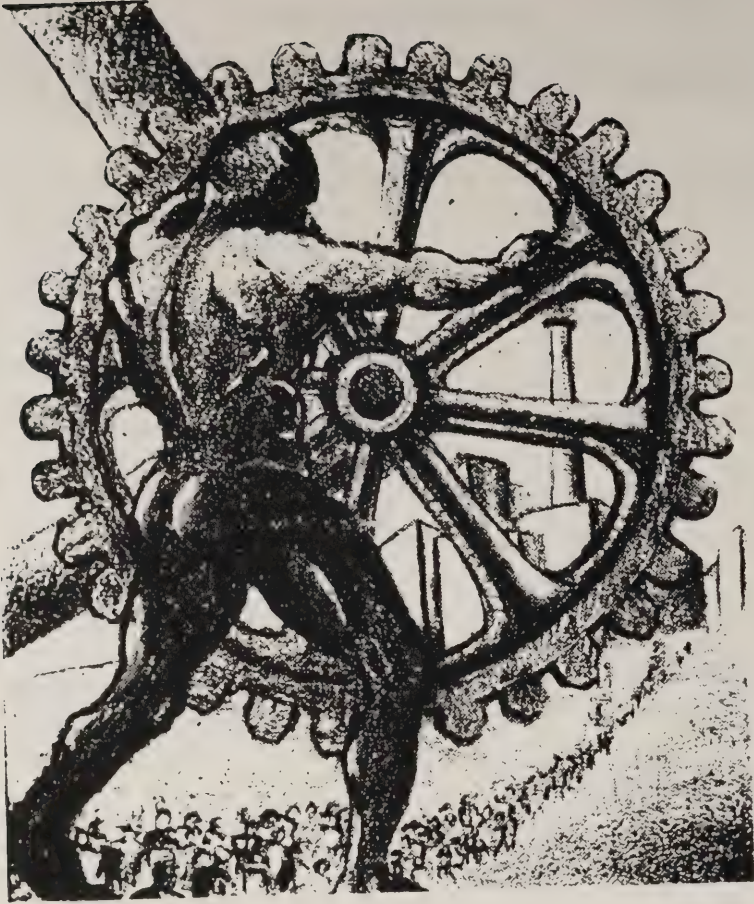
If this book can challenge thinkers of both groups to the rich possibilities of closer inter-racial cooperation and understanding; if this book, humble though it may be, can inspire even one Negro youth to the golden opportunity which lies ahead of him—then I shall believe that my labor and time were well invested.

—PETER W. CLARK, '42

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*All other illustrations are by Numa J. Rousseve, Art Instructor of Xavier University.
This particular one is by Eugene Winslow, student-instructor of Dillard University.



"A Photo-Journalistic Study of Negro Life in New Orleans"



Scene in French Quarter

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INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER ONE

I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed.

—BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

I.

Deep down in the bosom of the Southland slumbers Louisiana, gem of a colonial empire, gate-way to the Gulf, land of moon-lit splendor, of moss-covered magnolias and cypress-shaded bayous, storehouse of sulphur, oil, of rice and sugar cane.

Deeper still, in Louisiana's delta region, lies New Orleans, favorite daughter of "Ol' Man River", whose muddy waters empty into the warm, green depths of the Gulf of Mexico.

Nestled in an area rich in geographical advantages, New Orleans stretches forth in verdant splendor—a pearl of the plains, a diamond of the delta.

No other metropolis of the South can surpass New Orleans for its romantic past; few can rival it for its inter-mixture of races, creeds and nationalities.

New Orleans, one of the nation's leading sea-ports, is the progeny of four nations: France, Spain, England and America. Today, despite the fact that it retains many of its time-worn customs and quaint traditions, it is a typical American city.

However, despite its remarkable advances in culture and industry—New Orleans has as yet to rid itself of many of the practices which have helped keep the races apart. Today over 150,000 citizens of the city of New Orleans, approximately one-third of her entire population, are still the victims of systematic segregation. New Orleans, characteristic of the Southland, still maintains a dual system of education, "White Primaries", wage differentials, and the like, are still the order of the day.

II.

Today there are delta shadows beneath the delta sun. A new type of Negro is emerging from the delta bottoms of Dixieland; this Negro is a far cry from the "John Henrys" and the "Uncle Remuses" of the Ante-Bellum era.

This new Negro has his feet firmly implanted in the delta soil; his eyes are cast upward and forward not downward nor backward. No longer does he follow "would-be-messiahs"; his weapons are faith in his own ability and the wisdom that he has gained through decades of experience. No longer does he invite paternalism; what he desires is complete integration into the social and economic fabric of affairs; what he seeks is a full recognition of his rights and capacities.

With increased education and widened opportunities in labor and business his future is indeed much brighter than pessimists will admit. If he remains alert and uses his energies in the right direction—progress in the future seems assured.

Right now he must exert every possible method to gain the full share of the civil liberties which is his due; political disfranchisement, economic serfdom and similar evils must be wiped out. He has taken the first step; now, he must never cease his journey until the goal has been completely won. The Negro's victory will come when he has the use of the ballot, when Negroes are not forced to live in circumscribed areas and when the Negro attains full equality in the fruits of the democratic way of life.



Lawrence D. Crocker, newly appointed Principal of the Booker T. Washington High School, who is widely respected for his administrative skill and pedagogical ability.



Huntington Dusuau of the Calliope St. Housing Project, dictating a letter to his secretary.



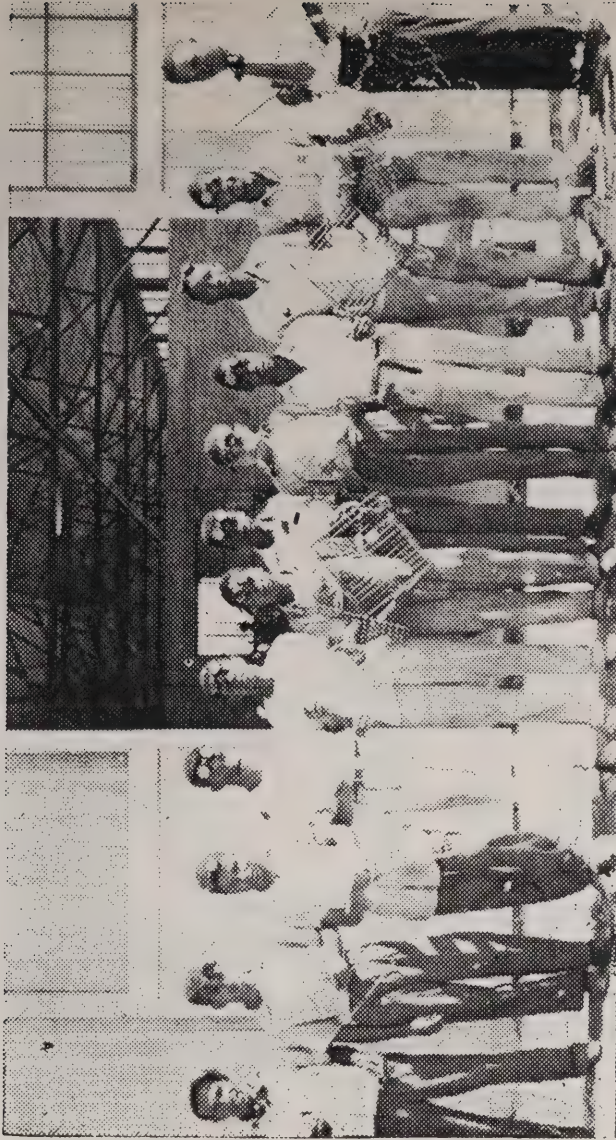
Welding School Registration: Negro civic organizations waged a relentless battle to secure adequate defense training for local Negro youth.



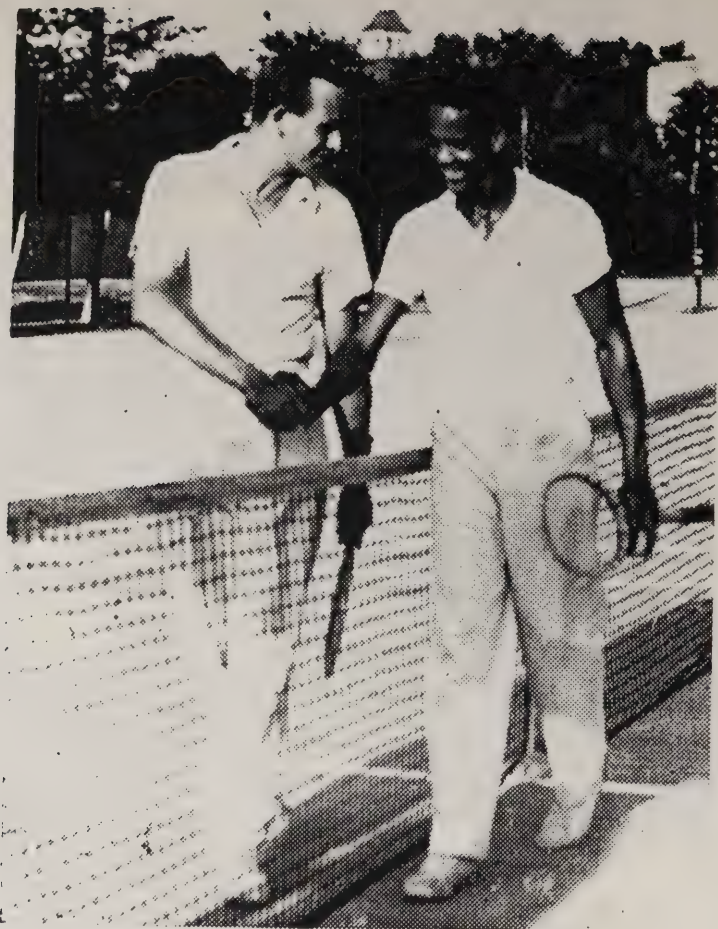
Mohammed Shaik, one of the first three local Negro youth to complete flying courses sponsored by the C.A.A. this past summer, '41. He received his instructions in West Virginia.



Local members of the U.S.O. Committee.



Students of the local Welding School conducted for Negroes, Negroes of New Orleans, and the South at large, are striving to gain representation in all branches of the defense effort.



Charles Hare congratulating Xavier's McDaniel after a thrilling exhibition match played at Turkeeger in '41. Despite players of Jimmie's calibre the American Lawn Tennis Assn. still frowns upon Negroes competing in open tournaments.



Entrance to Dillard's Academic Building.



Local Negro youth doing their part to assist in the nation-wide campaign to assemble scrap aluminum. Negroes, regardless of age or locality, are always the first to display their loyalty and patriotism—even in the face of discrimination.

CHAPTER TWO

HIGH LIGHTS OF NEW ORLEANS' ROMANTIC PAST

. . . nothing can contribute more toward the permanent establishment of our national welfare than the continued effort to realize for the humblest in our national life, whether black or white, that full measure of justice and equal opportunity for which America stands as a symbol before all the world. To this task thousands of the noblest spirits of our country are dedicated. It is such as these that make one, regardless of race, proud to be an American.

—ROBERT RUSSA MOTON

1718

New Orleans, "America's Most Interesting City", was established by the French in the historic year of 1718. Led by Jean Baptiste Le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville, Nouvelle Orleans was named in honor of Philippe, Duke of Orleans, then regent of France.

1722

It was in 1722 that New Orleans became the seat of the Louisiana Territory under the governorship of Bienville. The original seat of France's colonial empire in America had been Biloxi.

Earlier in its history, the present day site of what is now New Orleans, had been explored by Robert Cavalier Sieur de La Salle, and later on by Pierre Le Moyne, Sieur de Iberville and his brother Bienville.

1728

After the recall of Bienville, due to internal trouble in the colony, the next milestone reached in New Orleans' history was the coming of the "casket girls" in 1728. These women were sent from France to serve as wives for the French settlers in the Louisiana Territory. The film, "Naughty Marietta", gives a theatrical version of the life and adventures of the colorful French pioneers of this period.

The Marquis de Vaudreuil, who replaced Bienville as governor of the Louisiana Territory is generally credited with the transformation of New Orleans from a primitive wilderness and a back-woods' settlement into a gay, sophisticated "New World Paris".



Clarence Laws, Urban League Secretary, selling \$5,000.00 worth of War Bonds to
Carpenters' Union Executives.

1763

Shortly after the arrival of Vaudreuil, the colony became engulfed in boundary disputes with the English. Spain, as a result, entered the controversy as an ally of France in the French-Indian War. By the treaty of Paris, which was signed in 1763, the Louisiana Territory was divided. Under this new arrangement, England received all east of the Mississippi except the Isle of Orleans, which was transferred to Spain. In this way France repaid her European ally for the aid and assistance she had received in her encounter with the British.

1766

Don Antonio de Ulloa, first Spanish governor of Louisiana, arrived in New Orleans in 1766. Spanish rule resulted in the colonists revolting and de Ulloa was forced to flee. To quell this rebellion, Spain sent Don Alexandro O'Reilly, Inspector General of the Royal Army of Spain, to take over the reigns of government. It was O'Reilly who established the Cabildo, a judiciary body of ten men presided over by the governor. O'Reilly's rule in striking contrast to that of Ulloa and Philipe Aubry, acting governor of France.

O'Reilly was succeeded as governor by a liberal and judicious ruler, Colonel Luis de Unzaga, whose rule caused the colony to make remarkable strides in culture and prosperity. Unzaga was in turn succeeded by Don Bernardo de Galvez, who was successful in recovering Florida from Spain's English adversaries. Don Estevan Miro followed Galvez, who was, also, influential in promoting the further progress of the colony.

1783

During Miro's term in office the great fire of 1788 destroyed New Orleans. Don Andreas Almonaster, a generous philanthropist, rebuilt the city. It was under his expert guidance that the Cabildo, the Presbytère, and the St. Louis Cathedral were erected. All of these buildings still stand in New Orleans.

1792

Carondelet succeeded Miro as governor of the colony in 1792. He attempted to improve New Orleans, but the Creole sympathy with the Revolution in France precipitated much hardship. Carondelet opened Louisiana as a haven for fleeing Royalists and granted to many of them large tracts of land. This led to such revolts as the Pointe Coupee insurrection.



Y. M. C. A. Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Committee.

1795

Similar to the slave rebellion in Santo Domingo, slaves revolted in Pointe Coupee as indicative of the resentment they felt towards the harsh treatment handed them by their tyrannical masters.

1794-1795

These years brought two notable accomplishments in Louisiana history. The first was the founding of the *Moniteur de la Louisiane*, Louisiana's first newspaper in 1794. This occurred during Carondelet's tenure in office. The second noteworthy event was the discovery of a process of granulating sugar by Etienne de Boré in 1795.

1803

In Napoleon's signing of the Treaty of San Ildefonso, France resigned her right to the colony. This, however, was short-lived, for in 1803 Napoleon transferred the Territory of Louisiana to the United States of America for the fabulous sum of \$15,000,000.

1804

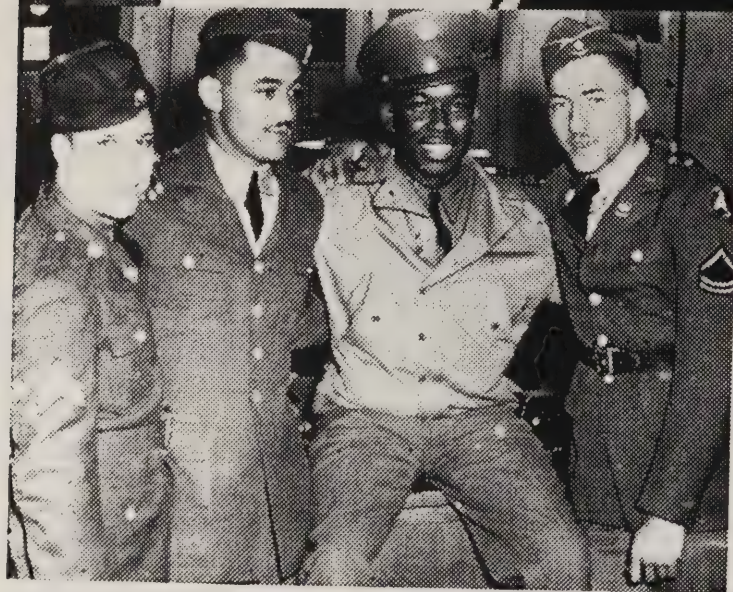
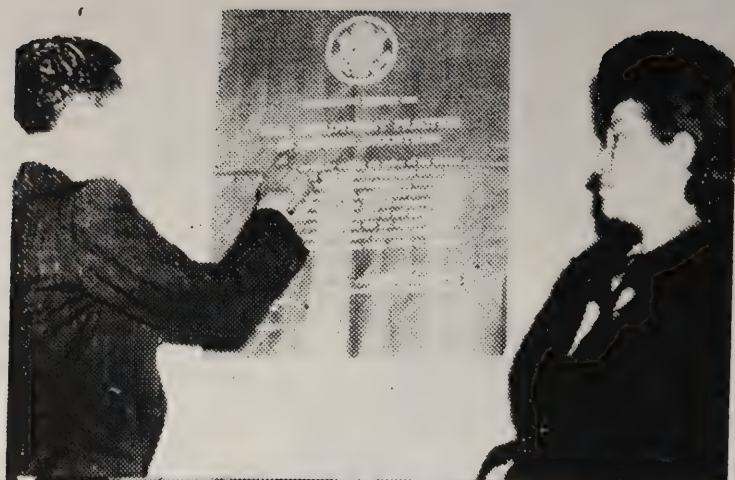
The Congress of the United States during this year divided the territory into two divisions: all south of the 33rd parallel was called the Territory of Orleans, and all north, the District of Louisiana. A new governor was established and it was, also, decreed that as soon as the population reached the 60,000 mark Louisiana should be admitted into the Union as a sovereign state. The people of the colony were granted equal rights with their nearest neighbors, the people of the Mississippi Territory.

Shortly after the purchase of Louisiana, there developed a dispute between Spain and the United States over the southeastern boundary of Louisiana. This led to the Florida Rebellion, in which residents of this territory ousted the Spanish flag. This territory was taken over by Governor William C. C. Claiborne for the United States. Under the new agreement, all east of the Pearl River went to Mississippi and all west to Louisiana.

1819

In 1819 Spain ceded East Florida to the United States and fixed the western boundary of Louisiana as the Sabine River.

The census of 1810 had revealed a population of 76,556 for Louisiana. This was more than the 60,000 citizens or inhabitants required for statehood, and in 1812 after much debate the territory was admitted as the State of Louisiana.



Top: Bennett Ross, newly elected, '42, President of the local branch of the N.A.A.C.P., who has endeavored to secure fair employment conditions for local Negroes; bottom: Sergeant Joe Jones and a group of his buddies on a brief furlough in New Orleans.

During the War of 1812, which is often called the Second War of Independence, the English sought to capture New Orleans. It was Jean Lafitte, notorious pirate, and his Baratarians who tricked the British. After pledging his support to the British cause, Lafitte warned Governor Claiborne and with his men helped General Andrew Jackson to win the Battle of New Orleans, which was fought in 1815. Lafitte and his men, as a result, were pardoned by the governor of Louisiana for their past infractions of the law.

The following table showing the increase in the population of the City of New Orleans illustrates her growth in a numerical sense.

POPULATION OF NEW ORLEANS, 1810-1940

YEAR	TOTAL	WHITE	NEGRO	OTHER RACES
1810	17,242			
1820	27,176			
1830	46,082			
1840	102,193			
1850	116,375	89,459	26,916	
1860	168,675	144,596	24,074	5
1870	191,418	140,923	50,456	39
1880	216,090	158,367	57,617	106
1890	242,039	177,376	64,491	172
1900	287,104	208,946	77,714	444
1910	339,075	249,403	89,262	369
1920	387,219	285,916	100,930	303
1930	458,762	327,729	129,632	1,401*
1940 (p)	494,537	345,374	149,163**	

(p)---breakdown is based on a sample and, therefore, to be regarded as preliminary.

*---increase due, in part, to the fact that Mexicans, hitherto included under "white" were listed separately and included under "other races".

**---included all "non-white".

Since the earlier Census volumes were not available, a breakdown of New Orleans into white and Negro, for the earliest years was impossible.

The above table, showing the population of New Orleans, white and Colored, from 1810, the earliest date for which figures are available, to 1940, are from various issues of the *Decennial Census of the United States*, put out by the United States Bureau of the Census.

1845

Louisiana adopted a new state constitution in this memorable year.

1846

In this year, the capital was removed from New Orleans to Baton Rouge, "the Red Stick Village".

1862

During the month of April, 1862, New Orleans surrendered to the Federal troops besieging the city on all fronts. Until the end of the Civil War, it was divided under the control of Federal and Confederate governments.

1864

In 1864 the capital of Louisiana, for a brief period of time, was again returned to New Orleans.

Since this time, New Orleans has advanced from a total population in 1870 of 191,418 to a total population in 1940 of 500,000 people.



Staff members of the New Orleans Sentinel Newspaper. This paper has been conspicuously outspoken on the question of Negro rights.



Negroes Registering at Soule Bldg. (Negroes were later denied the privilege of voting.



St. Mary's Academy maintained by the Sisters of the Holy Family, who celebrate their 100th anniversary this year, 1942.



Lawyer Tureaud and Joseph McKelpin, left, litigant in local suit by Colored Teachers
of Orleans Parish to obtain equalization of salaries.



Donald Jones, Editor of the New Orleans Sentinel receiving Omega Award for journalistic achievement for 1940 from George Longe, Basileus.



Students of the Y. M. C. A. School of Commerce.

CHAPTER THREE

THE NEGRO AS A FACTOR IN THE HISTORY OF NEW ORLEANS

Already the Negro sees himself against a reclaimed background, in a perspective that will give pride and self-respect ample scope, and make history yield for him the same values that the treasured past of any people affords.

—ARTHUR SCHOMBURG

No passing survey of Negro life in New Orleans, however brief, is complete without at least passing mention being made of some of the illustrious men and women of Negro lineage who have left their imprint upon the scrolls of Louisiana history.

On the river-front, on the plantation, on winding, cobblestoned thoroughfares, in the granaries, in the sweat shops, in the teeming market places—the Negroes of New Orleans' romantic past have left an indelible mark.

There were several groups or classes of Negroes who lived in New Orleans, and other sections of Louisiana and the Southland, during the Colonial era. No one can deny the rich legacy which each left behind. Much of the agricultural greatness of the South, as well as many of its most revered traditions and customs, were the output of the Negro.

The slaves, who were brought to the South by slave-traders, were the ones who tilled and cultivated the farm lands; it was the slaves who hewed the wood, gathered the grain and performed the many-sided domestic chores. All of them were not illiterate and unskilled. In many instances they were highly skilled in technical trades and professional occupations. The altar rails of the St. Louis Cathedral, for example, were the product of slave labor.

Except in a few isolated instances, most of the slaves lived in dilapidated huts and run-down shacks which lay in the shadow of the plantation or "Big House". Many of them were artisans who excelled in basketry, tile-setting, harness work and wood craft.

Then there were the free men of color, who were called "les gens de couleur". They enjoyed many privileges, such as the right to vote, hold office and own private property, which were denied the

slaves. New Orleans' history is replete with the deeds of many distinguished men and women of color, many of whom were well educated and conversant in several languages.

These were not the only groups identified with the Negro. There were the mullatoes, of mixed origin, white and Negro elements; the octoroons, who possessed seven-eighths white blood and one-eighth Negro blood; the quadroons, persons who were one-fourth Negro. During the Ante Bellum period, quadroom bands entertained at the cafes and cabarets of New Orleans.

Even today in New Orleans, there are found Negroes of every racial type; in many cases it is impossible to detect their racial identity by a mere observation of their physical characteristics.

Although space will not permit an inclusion of the biographies of many of these illustrious Negroes of New Orleans' past, brief sketches of the lives of a few of the more prominent ones have been presented.

Marie Laveau

Marie Laveau was born in 1783 and died in 1881. She was known as the "Voodoo Queen". A mulattress, she led an almost legendary career. She boasted of hundreds of followers of every race and nationality. The cult or sect which she led advocated many strange charms and remedies which were supposed to be successful in dispelling "evil spirits". One of her favorite rituals was a weird ceremony at which an alligator, from a nearby swamp, was sacrificed. Her followers would lustily drink its blood. Today in civilized New Orleans, there are many strange superstitions still in evidence. Many New Orleanians still pursue some of the "voodooistic" beliefs perpetuated by followers of Marie Laveau.

Thomy Lafon

Lafon was born in 1810 and died in 1893. He achieved much success in business and real estate. At the time of his death, he had amassed a fabulous fortune.

Although he was a Catholic, he gave to all creeds and denominations. At his death he left his wealth to charity. His will, which was written in French, included bequests to the following institutions: Straight, Leland and New Orleans Universities; the Charity Hospital, the Lafon Protestant and Catholic Old Folk's Homes and the Touro-Shakespeare Home. White and Colored citizens, alike, were benefitted as a result of Lafon's benevolences.





Doorway of Refectory Building at Dillard University.

Edmund Dedé

Edmund Dedé, a New Orleans Negro, was born in 1829. He died, a famous composer and musician, in Bordeaux, France, where for many years he conducted a symphony orchestra. He was educated at the Paris Conservatoire, where he took high rank as a violinist. One of his best known compositions was "Le Palmier Overture".

Pinkey Benton Stuart Pinchback

P. B. S. Pinchback was a mulatto politician who was born in 1837 in New Orleans. He died in 1921. During the Reconstruction Period he served as Lieutenant Governor of the State of Louisiana.

These were only four of the famous Negroes in the history of New Orleans. There were scores of others whose heroic deeds still live today. Below is a list of some of the more outstanding ones and a brief sketch of their accomplishments.

Basil Croquère, who won distinction as a dueller and swordsman. He was, at one time, acclaimed as the finest fencer in Louisiana.

Norbert Rillieux, a Colored Creole of New Orleans who was a noted mechanic and tool-maker.

Eugene Warbourg, a distinguished artist and sculptor. Many of his works were exhibited in Europe and America.

Rodolphe Desdunes, author of *Nos Hommes et Notre Histoire*, a book of 196 pages which appeared in 1911.

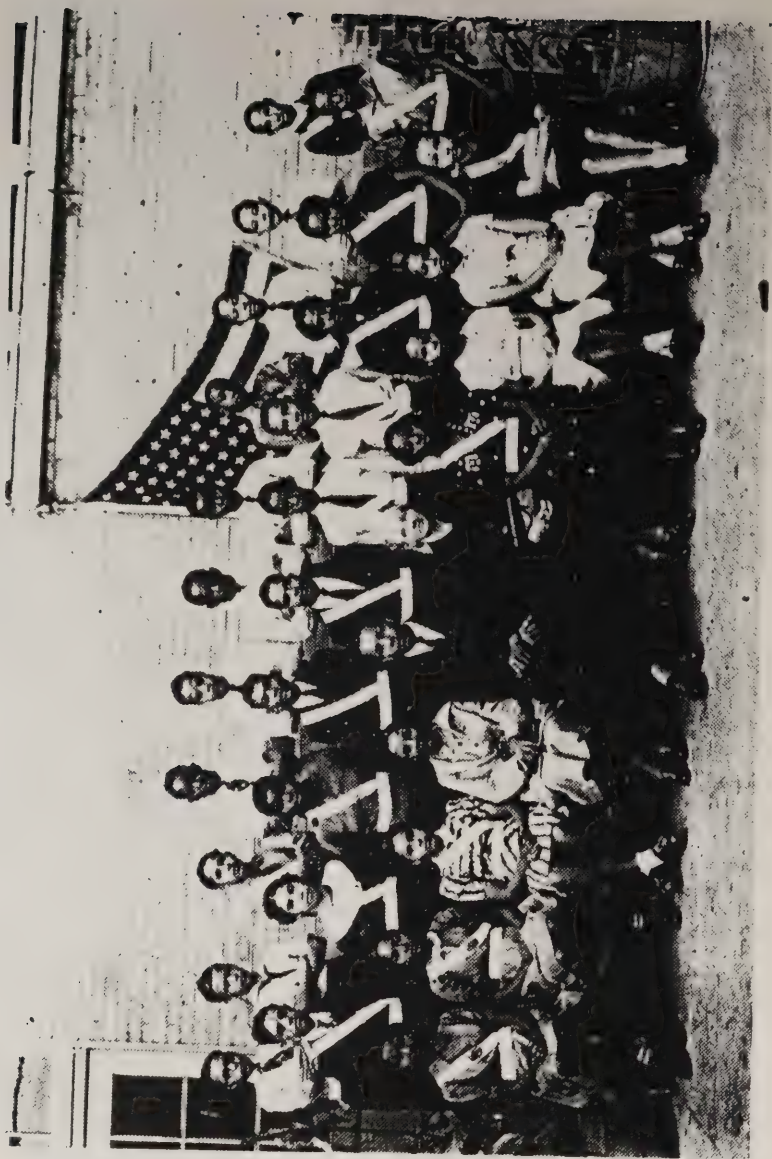
Other outstanding Negroes included: Michael Seligny, author; Joseph Beaumont, a writer of short stories; Lucien Mansion, Camille Thierry, Louis Roudanez, Joanni Questy and Victor Séjour.



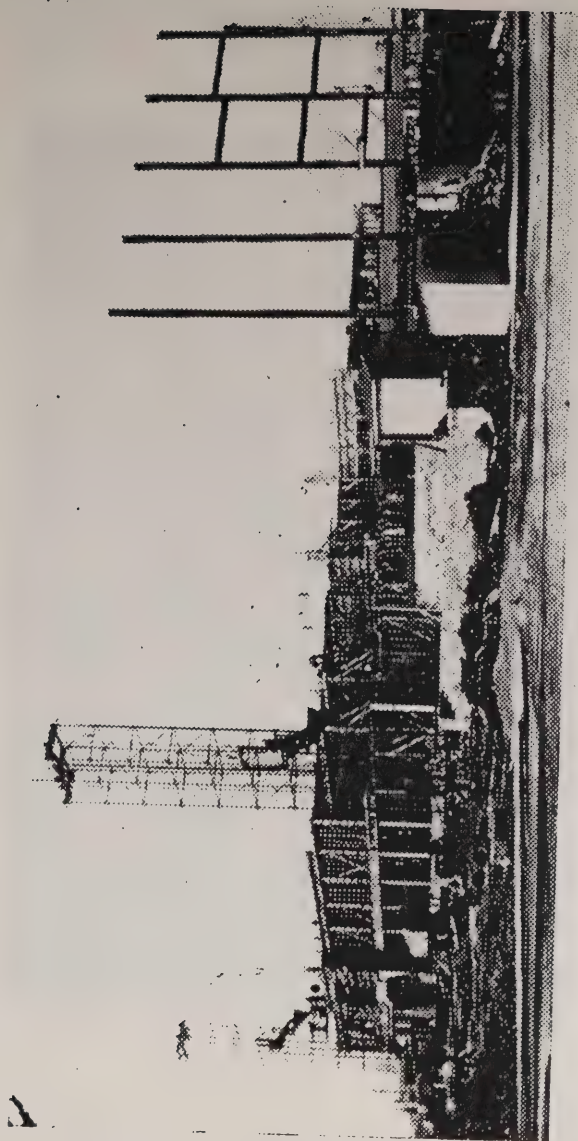
Avenue of Oaks, Dillard University.



Local Group of H-Y Students and Advisors.



Members of the Joseph A. Craig Safety Patrol, '40.



The Booker T. Washington Comprehensive High School under construction. It is now ready for occupation.



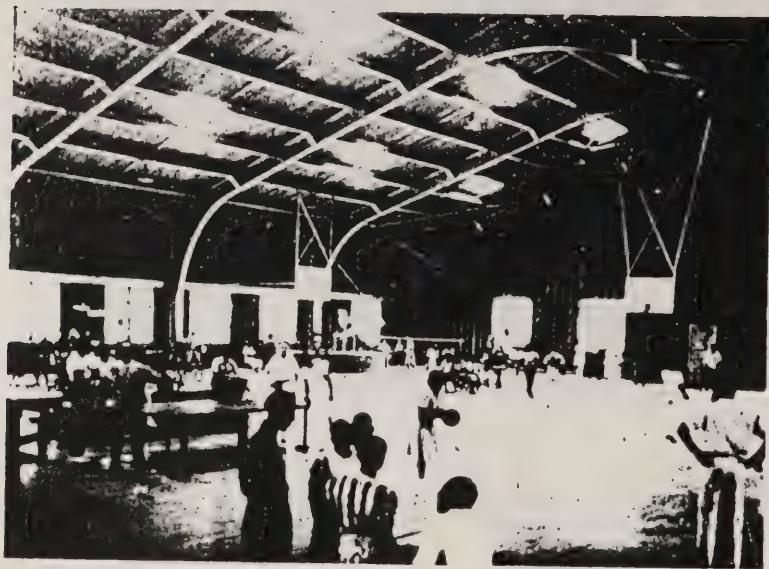
Y. W. C. A., located on Canal Street .



A typical group of young sports enthusiasts of the Crescent City.



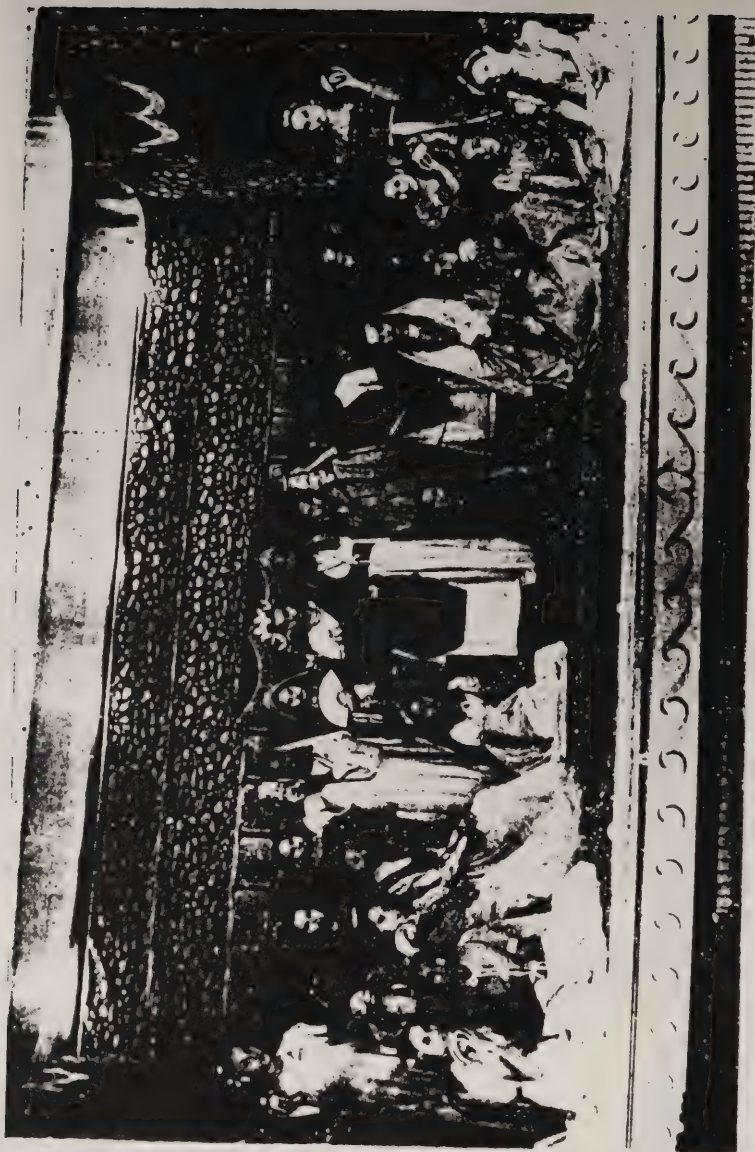
Art Studios of Xavier University.



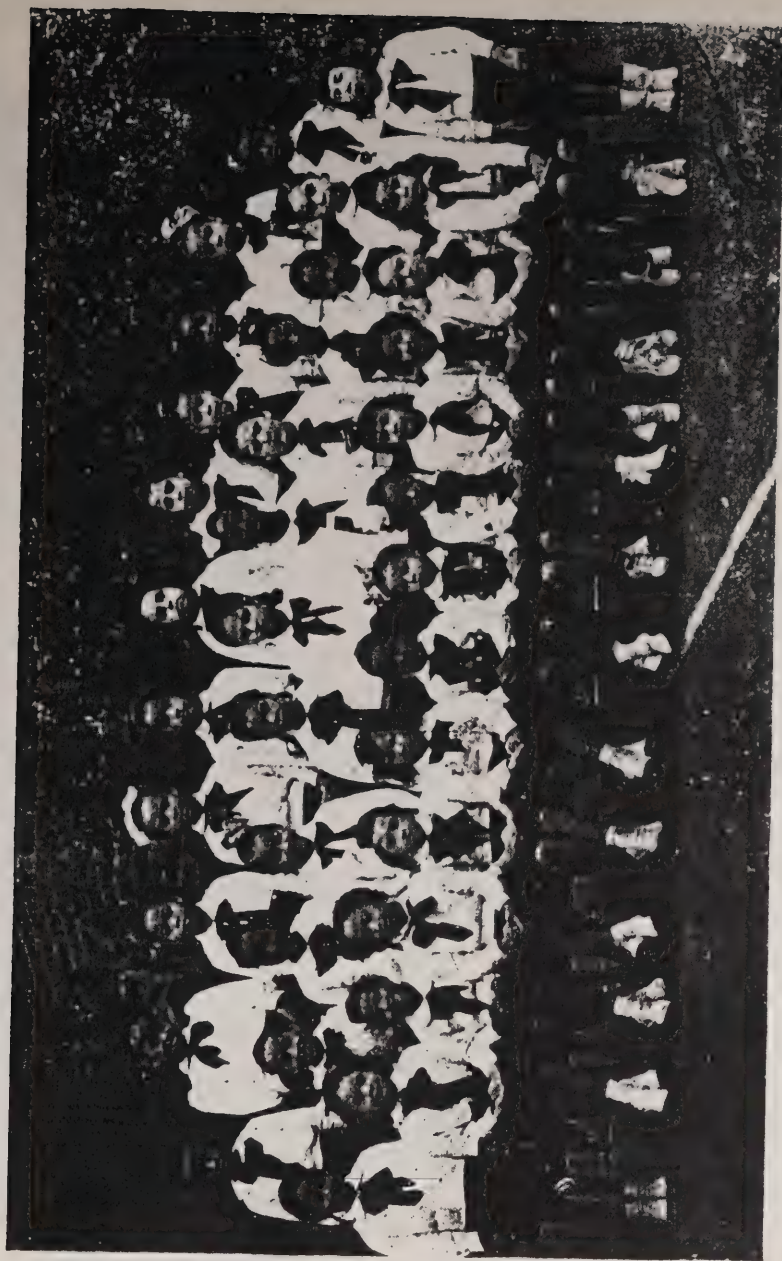
Annual Summer Phy. Ed. Clinic at Xavier.



Children of Isabella Hume Day Nursery.



A dramatic festival at the Holy Family Convent. This is a colored order.



Primary Class at S. Mary's Academy.



Group of Faculty Members of Lafon Public School.



Two enrollees of Isabella Hume Day Nursery.



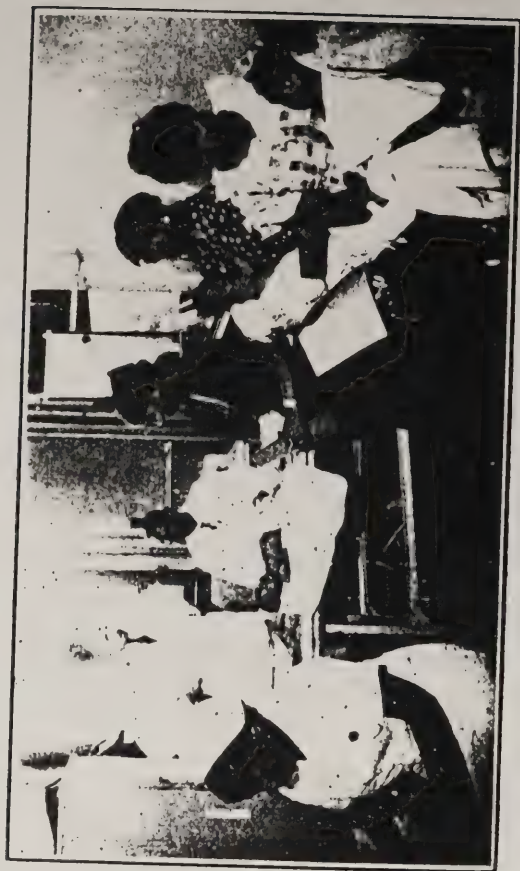
Architect's drawing of proposed Central Congregational Church,
Rev. Norman Holmes, Pastor.



Xavier's famous tennis duo, McDaniel and Cohen.



Colorful scene from local operatic production (Tales of Hoffman).



Pediatrics Clinic of Flint Goodridge Hospital.





Social and Refectory Building at Dillard University.



Holy Ghost Church, located on Louisiana Avenue.



Three recently ordained priests of St. Augustine's Seminary of Bay St. Louis, Miss.
(near New Orleans).

CHAPTER FOUR

THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE NEGRO IN NEW ORLEANS

It requires great spiritual elevation to get free of the blinding partisanship that befog both sides of the color line; just as it takes almost the long-range perspective of eternity to see and understand the puzzling paradoxes of America's so-called race-problem.

—ALAIN LOCKE

The following facts and figures are presented to give an insight into the social and economic status of Negroes in New Orleans. No spirit of malice is intended; it is our sole aim and purpose to give an authentic record of existing conditions. We have no specific solutions for the problems existing; neither do we wish to prefer indictments against any faction or group.

Two things are obvious: the Negro has made remarkable progress despite the obstacles in his path; the elimination of the present discrepancies which exist in the socio-economic status of whites and Negroes would, to a great degree, materially aid in the development of a better South and a stronger nation. Peace, liberty, contentment and inter-racial harmony can never exist as long as one group exploits the other. All races and nationalities must be allowed an equitable share of the fruits of American government.

Wealth of Negroes and Whites in New Orleans

The United States Census contains neither wealth nor income data for either the entire populations or any subdivisions; nor do any other statistics on wealth or income for the population of New Orleans appear to exist. However, some of the Census data has been used as indices of income or economic level, such as "median rental", "median value of homes", percentage of home ownership and radio ownership. The following table, compiled from the *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population, Vol. VI: "Families"* (Washington, 1933), and showing comparative statistics for Negroes and whites, illustrates to some extent the gross differentials existing between the economic levels of whites and Negroes. It should, likewise, be pointed out that at the time of the publication of this book results of the 1940 Census were not available. The 1940

Census specifically asks questions concerning income and earning power. These questionnaires are now being compiled for future release.

ECONOMIC STATISTICS, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

	Total No. of Families	Families Owning Homes	% Owning Homes	Median Value of Homes	Median Monthly Rental	% Owning Radios
All families	111,956	50,561	27.3	\$5,727	\$22.33	21.0
Negro families	34,461	4,566	13.2	2,796	16.51	3.3
Native White	68,216	21,726	31.8	6,381	26.62	29.7
Foreign-born White	8,939	4,233	47.4	6,179	28.25	23.2
Other races	320	36	11.3			

One of the vital issues of the day in New Orleans concerns the education of Negroes of the municipality of New Orleans. Here are several circumstances which exist that are in dire need of immediate rectification, according to the several impartial surveys that have been conducted.

1. The vast majority of the buildings used to house Negro educables are far below modern standards. Several structures are actually fire-traps.
2. There is insufficient playing space at most of the schools. This increases and encourages delinquency.
3. There is no public school for Negroes, presently in use, equipped with gymnastic facilities.
4. Many of the dwellings used to house Negro educables are located in the very shadows of crime and vice. In several instances saloons and cabarets are directly opposite Negro schools.
5. Negro teachers receive a wage far below that paid the white teachers of the same training and experience.
6. No provision has been made for the teaching of children, in the Negro schools, who are mentally or physically defective.
7. In the entire city of New Orleans there are practically no decent parks, swimming pools, playgrounds and recreation centers to which Negro Youth can gain admittance.
8. The teaching load (pupils per teacher) is much heavier in Negro schools than in white schools.

Many other discrepancies have been revealed as a result of recent surveys conducted in the local public school system. Little has been done to remedy these situations.

Expenditures for Education for Negroes and Whites

The following statistics on expenditures for education, in the State of Louisiana as a whole, and in the Parish of Orleans, in which New

Orleans is situated, are from the *Ninety-first Annual Report for the Session 1939-1940* of the State Department of Education of Louisiana (Bulletin, No. 448, Feb. 1, 1941).

STATISTICS OF EDUCATION, PARISH OF ORLEANS

1939-40

	White	Negro
No. of Educables	382,711	236,764
No. of Pupils Registered	298,455	174,649
% of Educables Registered	78.0	73.8
Average Attendance	253,722	144,392
No. of Pupils of Average Attendance per Teacher Employed	23.7	35.1
Cost of Current Operation per Pupil of Average Attendance (Median Parish)	\$69.37	\$16.88
Cost of Capital Outlay per Pupil Registered	17.36	3.70
Median Parish Salary per Teacher	1,044.89	377.05

EXPENDITURES FOR EDUCATION, LOUISIANA

1939-1940

	White	Negro
Expenses for Current Operation	\$3,473,247.39	\$850,388.88
Registration (elementary and high school)	47,062	25,621
Average Daily Membership	40,361	21,910
Average Daily Attendance	37,096	19,723
Number of Teachers: Men	222	106
Women	1,277	394
Average Salaries of Teachers	\$1,815.61	\$1,340.05
Cost per Pupil of Registration	\$73.80	\$33.19
Cost per Pupil of Average Attendance	\$93.63	\$43.12

There has been a significant decline in Negro illiteracy. The Adult Education Program has done a great deal in helping alleviate these adverse conditions. With better schools, an equitable distribution of the educational funds, better-trained teaching personnel, adequate measures directed towards the elimination of truancy—there will be within the next decades an even more significant decline in illiteracy. We have presented the illiteracy scale on a national basis solely for the necessity of presenting a composite picture.

Illiteracy

The following table, showing the percent illiterate among persons 10 years of age and over, for native whites, foreign-born whites, and Negroes, in 1930, by States and geographic divisions, is from the *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1940* (Washington, 1941), p. 55.



Typical slum scene in New Orleans' "Black Belt."



Tenement dwelling within shadows of business district.



Lafon Public School, typical of wooden-frame buildings used to house Negro educables.



Sylvania Williams Pool, the sole "swimming pool" in New Orleans designated for the use of Colored.

PERCENT ILLITERATE AMONG PERSONS 10 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

1930

Division and State	Native White	Foreign-born White	Negro
Continental U. S.	1.5	9.9	16.3
New England	0.6	11.6	5.5
Maine	1.6	8.5	4.8
New Hampshire	.8	9.6	3.9
Vermont	1.3	7.2	4.9
Massachusetts	.4	10.7	5.4
Rhode Island	.7	14.3	8.1
Connecticut	.4	14.6	4.9
Middle Atlantic	.5	12.2	3.7
New York	.5	10.8	2.5
New Jersey	.5	12.9	5.1
Pennsylvania	.6	15.4	4.2
East North Central	.7	8.8	4.7
Ohio	.7	11.6	6.4
Indiana	.9	10.1	6.0
Illinois	.6	9.0	3.6
Michigan	.5	6.7	3.0
Wisconsin	.6	7.8	4.4
West North Central	.7	4.9	7.6
Minnesota	.4	4.3	2.0
Iowa	.4	3.6	5.4
Missouri	1.5	7.5	8.8
North Dakota	.4	4.4	3.4
South Dakota	.4	3.7	2.2
Nebraska	.4	6.0	3.9
Kansas	.5	5.9	5.9
South Atlantic	3.7	10.4	19.7
Delaware	1.2	14.3	13.2
Maryland	1.3	12.2	11.4
District of Columbia	.2	4.8	4.1
Virginia	4.8	7.4	19.2
North Carolina	5.6	5.2	20.6
South Carolina	5.1	5.7	26.9
West Virginia	3.7	19.2	11.3
Georgia	3.3	4.0	19.9
Florida	1.9	5.4	18.8
East South Central	5.0	7.4	22.0
Kentucky	5.7	5.8	15.4
Tennessee	5.4	5.8	14.9
Alabama	4.8	8.5	26.2
Mississippi	2.7	12.6	23.2
West South Central	2.6	9.4	17.0
Arkansas	3.5	6.6	16.1
Louisiana	7.3	19.2	23.3
Oklahoma	1.7	5.6	9.3
Texas	1.4	7.3	13.4
Mountain	1.2	5.6	4.1
Montana	.3	4.3	4.6
Idaho	.4	4.0	4.2
Wyoming	.3	4.2	4.2
Colorado	.8	8.6	3.9
New Mexico	7.7	6.8	6.0



Group of physicians and surgeons of New Orleans, La.

Arizona .....	.5	3.6	4.0
Utah .....	.3	3.6	3.2
Nevada .....	.2	7.5	1.5
Pacific .....	.3	4.9	3.1
Washington .....	.3	2.9	2.9
Oregon .....	.3	3.6	2.5
California .....	.3	5.7	3.1

Skilled Workers in New Orleans

The occupational classification of the United States Census does not give a breakdown into skilled and unskilled workers; occupations are classified by major industry groups rather than socio-economic groups. The following table, compiled from the volume on *Occupations of the Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*, gives the distribution, by industry groups, for 1930, of gainfully occupied persons over 10 years of age, male and female, in the total as well as in the Negro population.

OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION BY INDUSTRY GROUPS, NEW ORLEANS

1930

	Males		Females	
	Total	Negro	Total	Negro
Agriculture	1,561	737	136	94
Forestry and fishing	452	107	3	1
Extraction of minerals	93	40		
Manufacturing and mechanical industries	44,657	12,416	9,440	2,995
Transportation and communication	26,794	12,401	1,472	41
Trade	28,649	4,831	5,788	301
Public Service (not elsewhere classified)	6,591	999	61	17
Professional Service	6,645	894	6,187	843
Domestic and personal service	11,707	6,548	28,299	23,055
Clerical occupations	16,131	539	9,722	184
Total gainfully occupied	143,280	39,512	61,108	27,531

Negro Insurance Companies

According to the *Negro Yearbook* for 1937-38, there are 44 Negro insurance companies in the United States. The *Yearbook* contains a list of the more important Negro insurance companies, among which the following are located in New Orleans:

Douglass Life
Louisiana Industrial Life
Standard Industrial
Unity Industrial Life



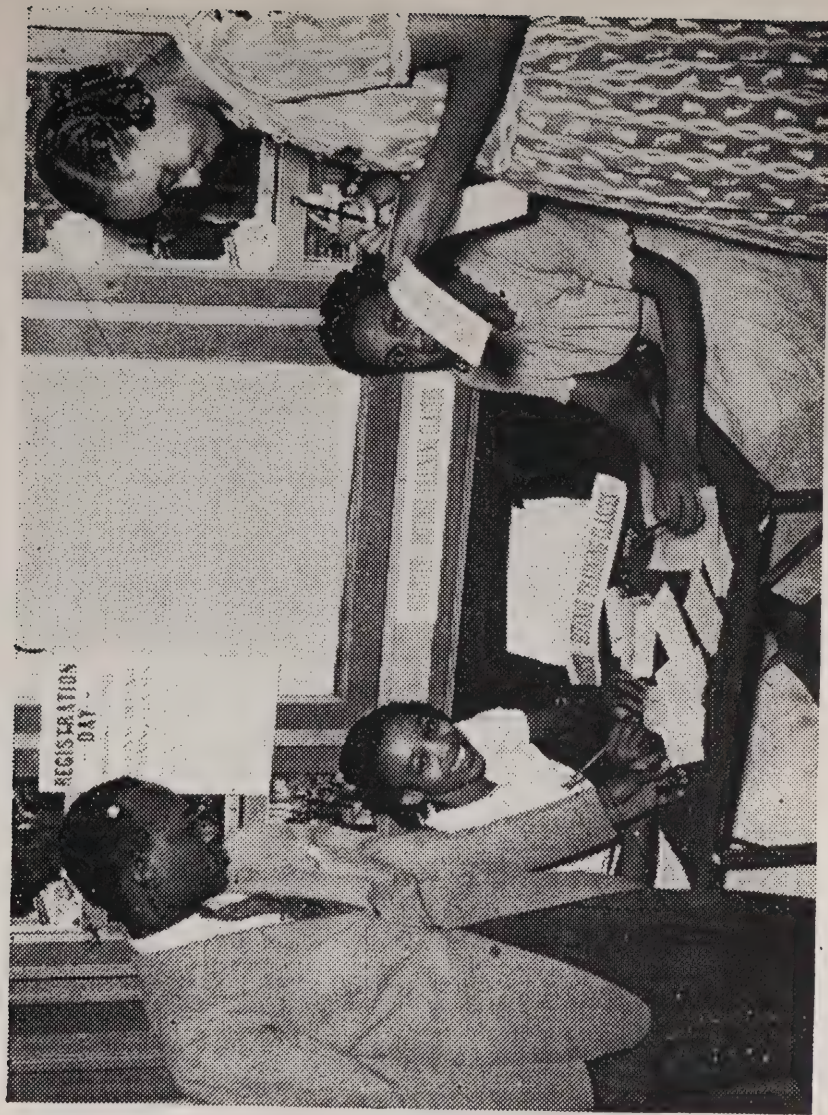
Staff members of the Isabella Hume Community Center.

THE NEW ORLEANS URBAN LEAGUE, INC.

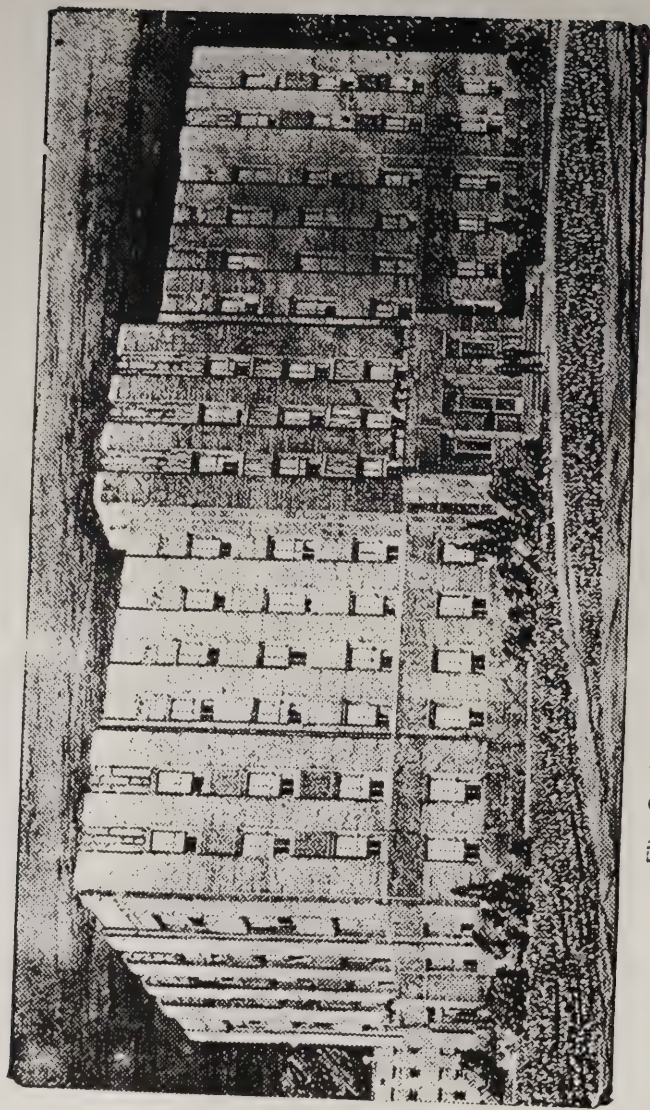
Executive Board

Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel	Honorary President
Marshall Ballard, Jr.	President
*C. C. Dejoie, Jr.	Vice-President
Rev. Norman A. Maunz	Vice-President
Rev. William Nes	Vice-President
Rabbi Julian Feibelman	Vice-President
Lawrence D. Crocker	Secretary
Harry Braden, Jr.	Treasurer
Herbert Mack	Asst. Treasurer
Mrs. Joseph E. Friend, Chairman	

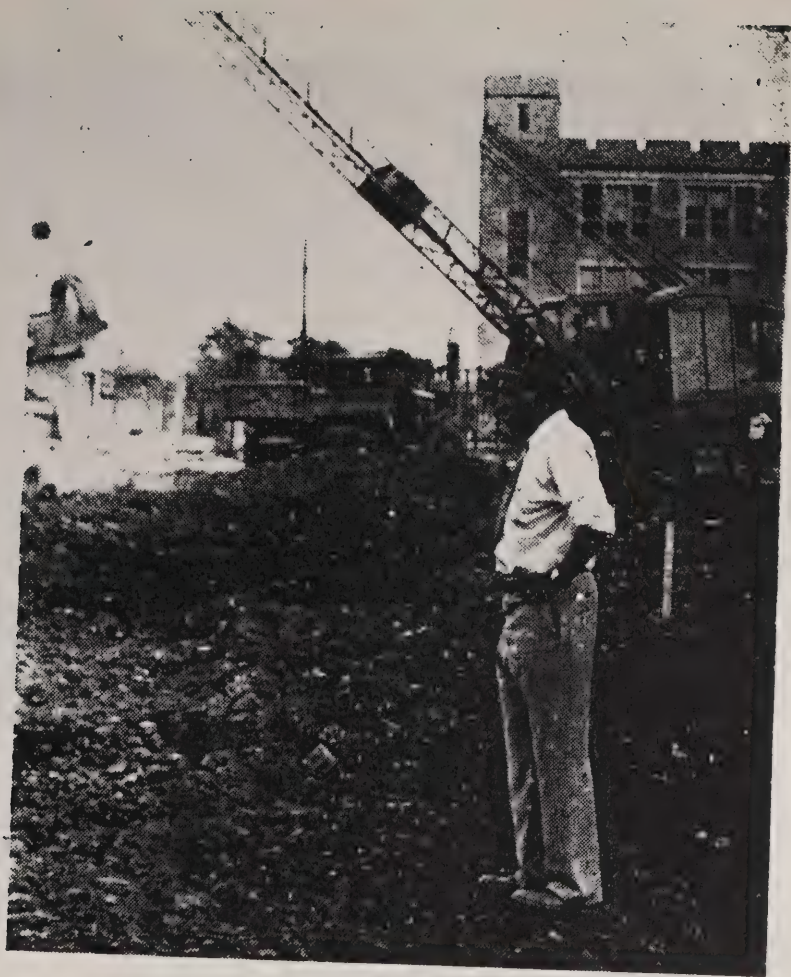
*Miss Hilda Arndt	Rev. Edward F. Murphy
Mrs. Corinne Azamare	*Mrs. George Parnell
Miss Iona Berteaux	*Arthur Perrault
Miss Blanche Best	*Dr. Jeanette Regensburg
Rev. Edward Casserly	Clarke Salmon
Miss Emma Pritchard Cooley	*Rev. Adam Scherer
Dr. P. P. Creuzot	Mrs. Joseph Simmons
J. E. Crown	Dr. J. E. Simms
James H. Crutcher	C. L. Speaker
*Ernest Delpit	Moise Steeg, Jr.
*Dr. J. M. Epps	O. C. W. Taylor
Dr. Rivers Frederick	Mrs. E. C. Thornhill
S. W. Green	Herman Washington
*Bishop S. L. Greene	Miss Fannie C. Williams
Joseph Haspel, Sr.	Samuel Zemurray, Jr.
*Dr. C. C. Haydel	Samuel Zemurray, Sr.
Rev. Norman A. Holmes	Executive Committee
*William Holmes	Mrs. Moise Cahn
Rev. H. J. Jacobi	Lawrence D. Crocker
Emile Labat	*Mrs. Mabel Devore
Mrs. William Lamb	Rev. Norman A. Maunz
Eldon Lazarus	*Victor Schiro
Mrs. I. L. Lemann	Walter Stern
James Lewis, Jr.	Rev. A. O. Wilson
George Longe	Staff
Miss Lillian Lockett	Clarence, A. Laws
T. M. Martin	Industrial Secretary
Mrs. H. S. Mayerson	Mrs. Elizabeth W. Crudup
*Rudolph Moses	Office Secretary
*Persons recently elected to the Board.	



Urban League Registration supervised by Clarence Laws, energetic executive.



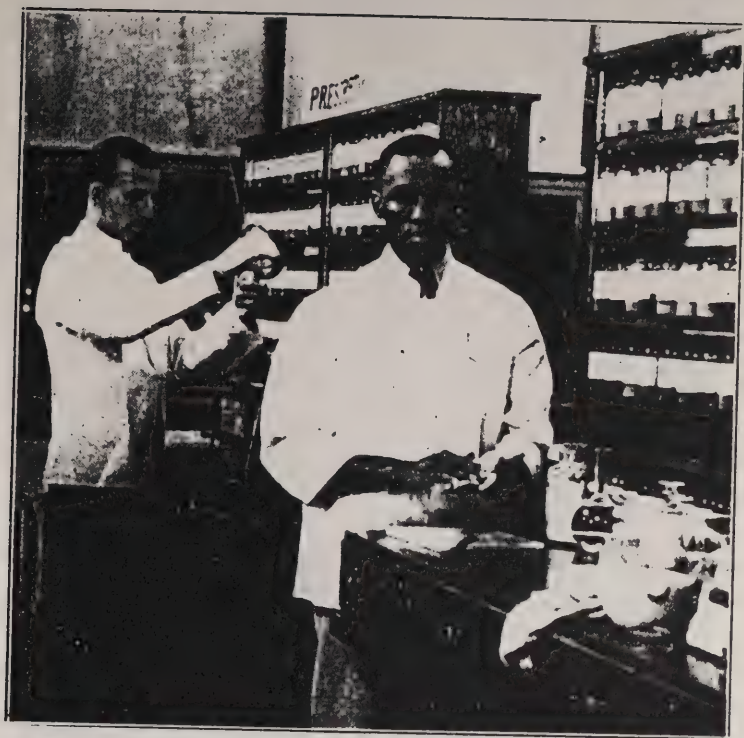
Flint Goodridge Hospital on Louisiana Ave. (Supt. Procope).



Joseph Bartholomew reviewing landscaping and excavating at Xavier.



A Group of Local Members of the Dental Profession.



Future pharmacists at work (Xavier, '40).



Don Budge, World's Professional Champ and Jimmie McDaniels of Xavier University, '40, taken after a close exhibition match which Budge won.



Lou Montgomery, Boston College football star taken on the occasion of the '41 Sugar Bowl game (Tennessee vs. B. C.). Thus far, no Negro athletes have been allowed to compete in any Sugar Bowl events.



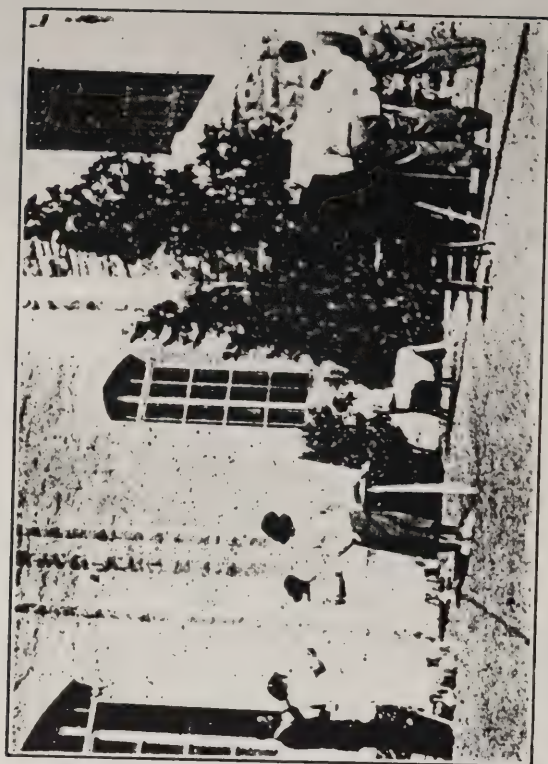
The All-Star Prep team for 1941 selected by sport scribes of the Louisiana Weekly Newspaper.



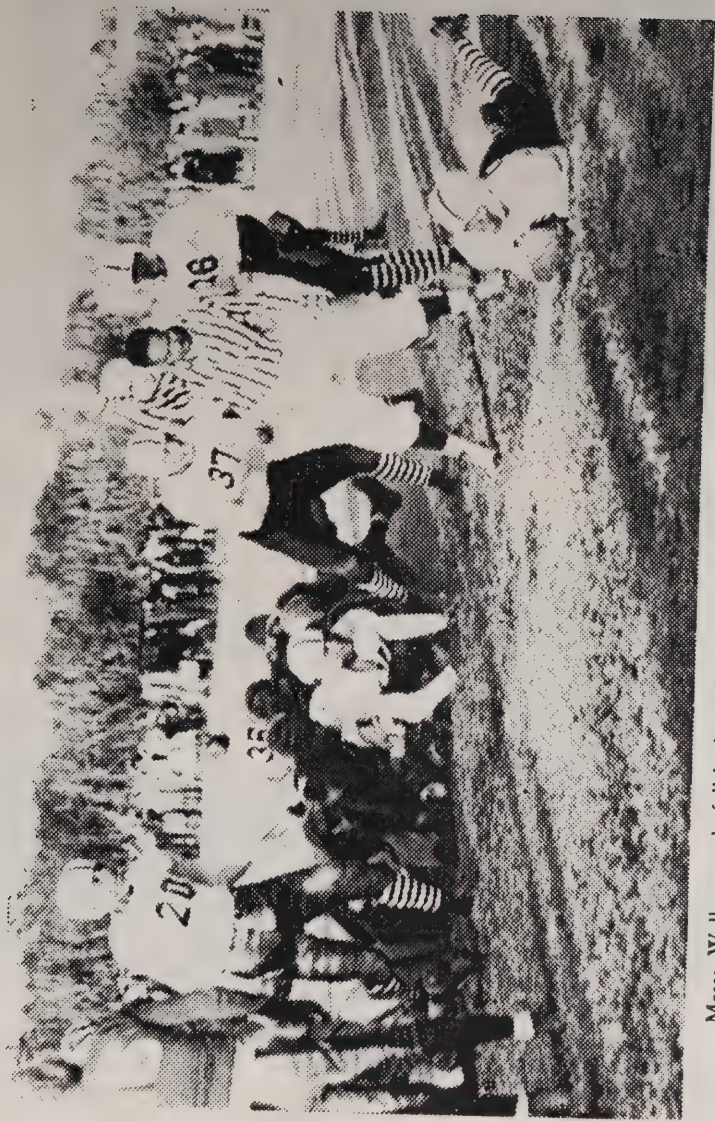
Four of New Orleans' leading sepiia golfers.



Recreation scene at Lafon Playground (Magnolia Housing Project in rear).



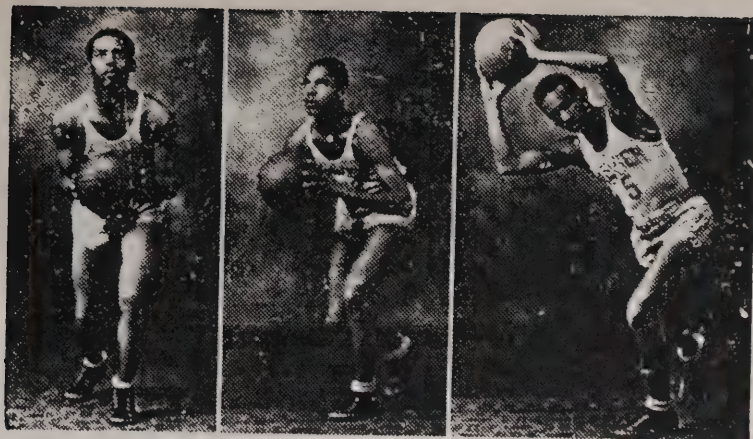
An out-door art class at Xavier.



Moses Walker, crack full-back of Dillard University plunging over for a decisive score in the Dillard-Tougaloo game. Moses hails from Princeton, N. J.



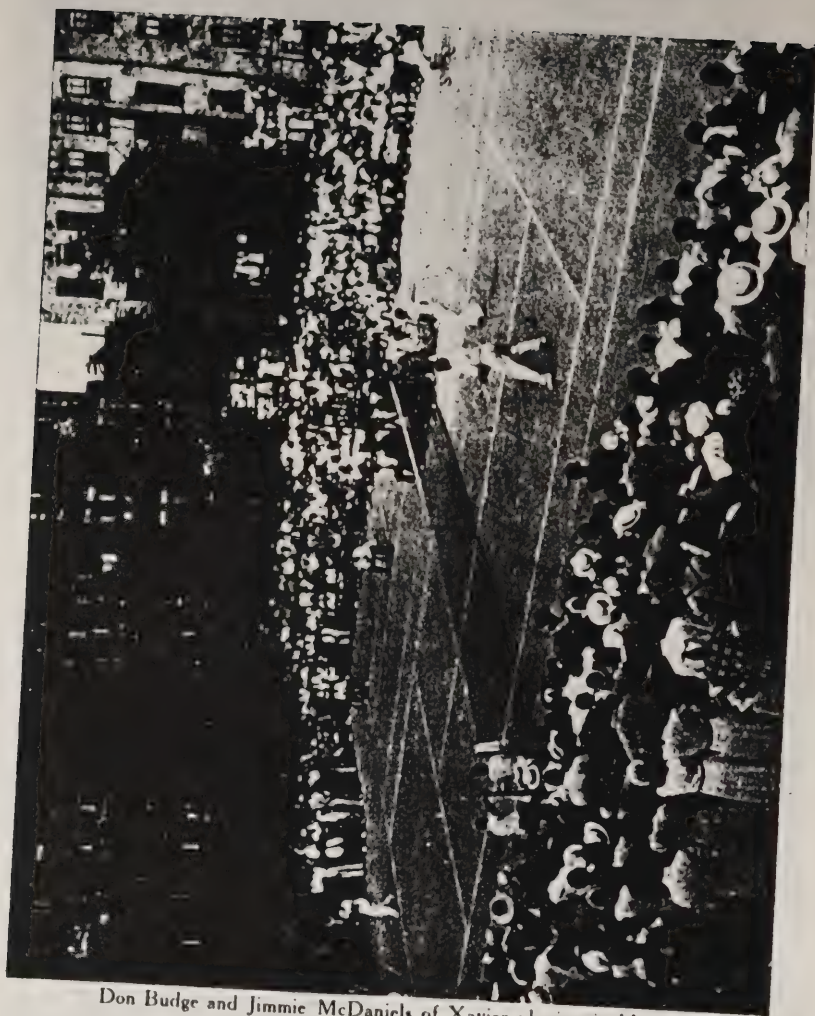
Holman Williams of Joe Louis' stable shakes hands with Xavier's greatest All-American, Hiram Workman, 1938.



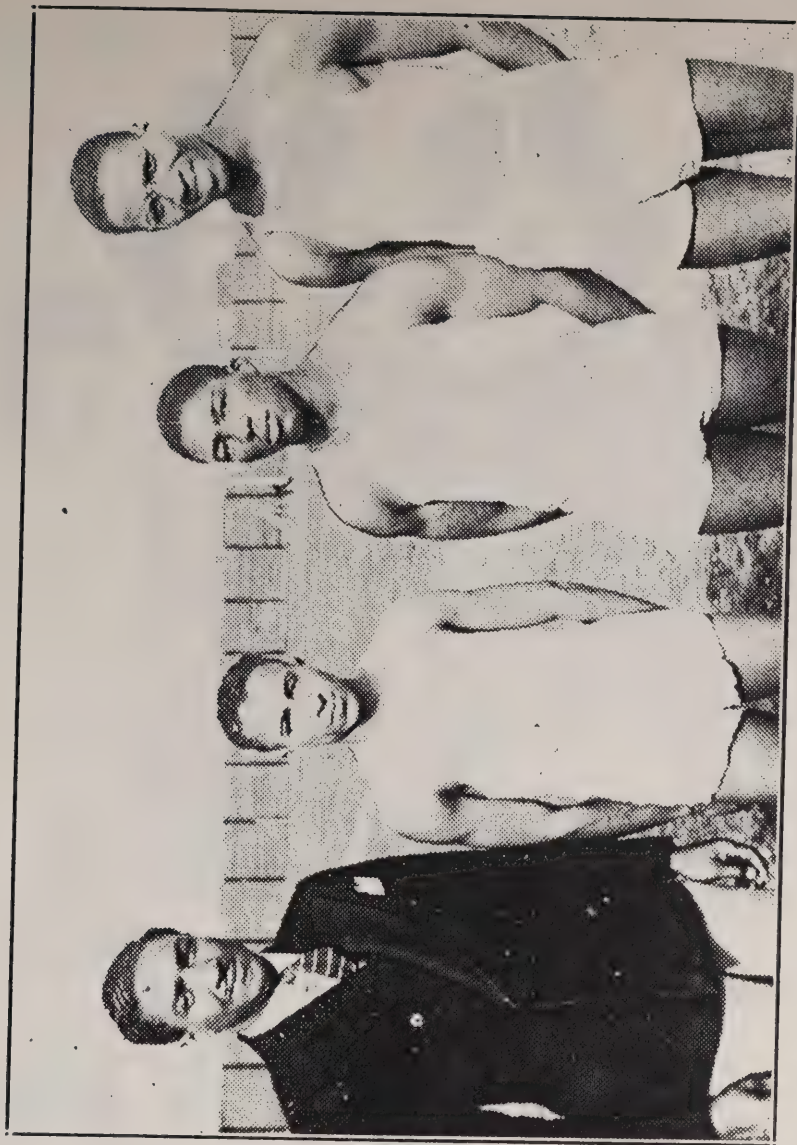
Top-notch court performers of Xavier; l. to r.: McKenna, Lewis, Woodruff, all local boys.



Members of Xavier's championship basketball team, S.I.A.C. and National Champions for 1941.



Don Budge and Jimmie McDaniels of Xavier playing in Harlem.



Metcalfe and three of his sterling proteges: Enos Hicks, sprinter; Gilder Farrow, hurdler and Lloyd Thompson, who has scaled 6' 8".



Crack Xavier Prep Relay Team, Southern Champs, '41.



Xavier Prep Basketball Team.



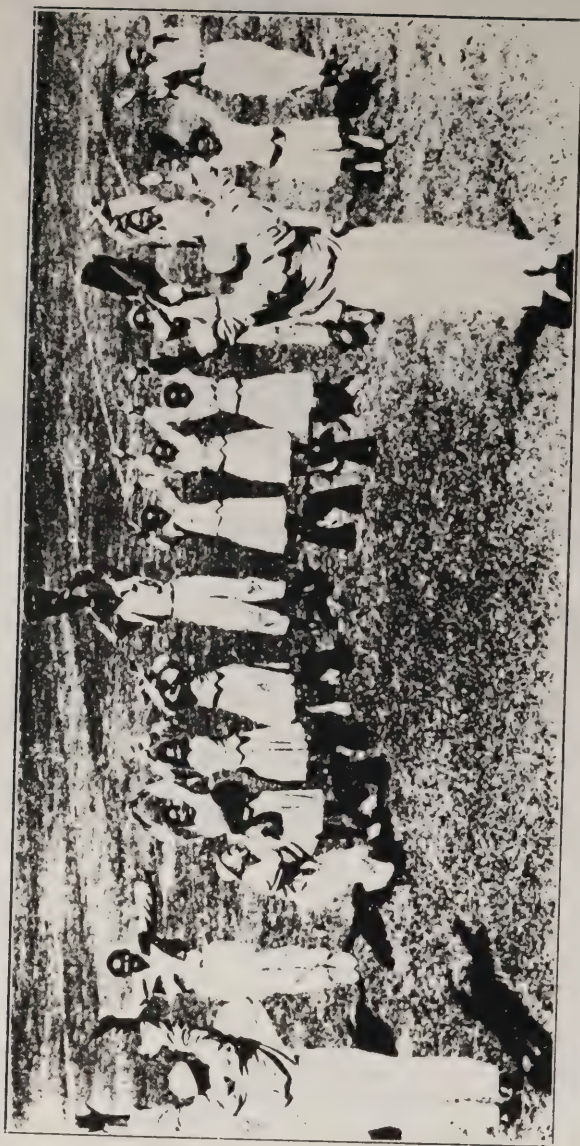
Annual street parade, presented by St. Mary's Academy; above is a prize-winning float.



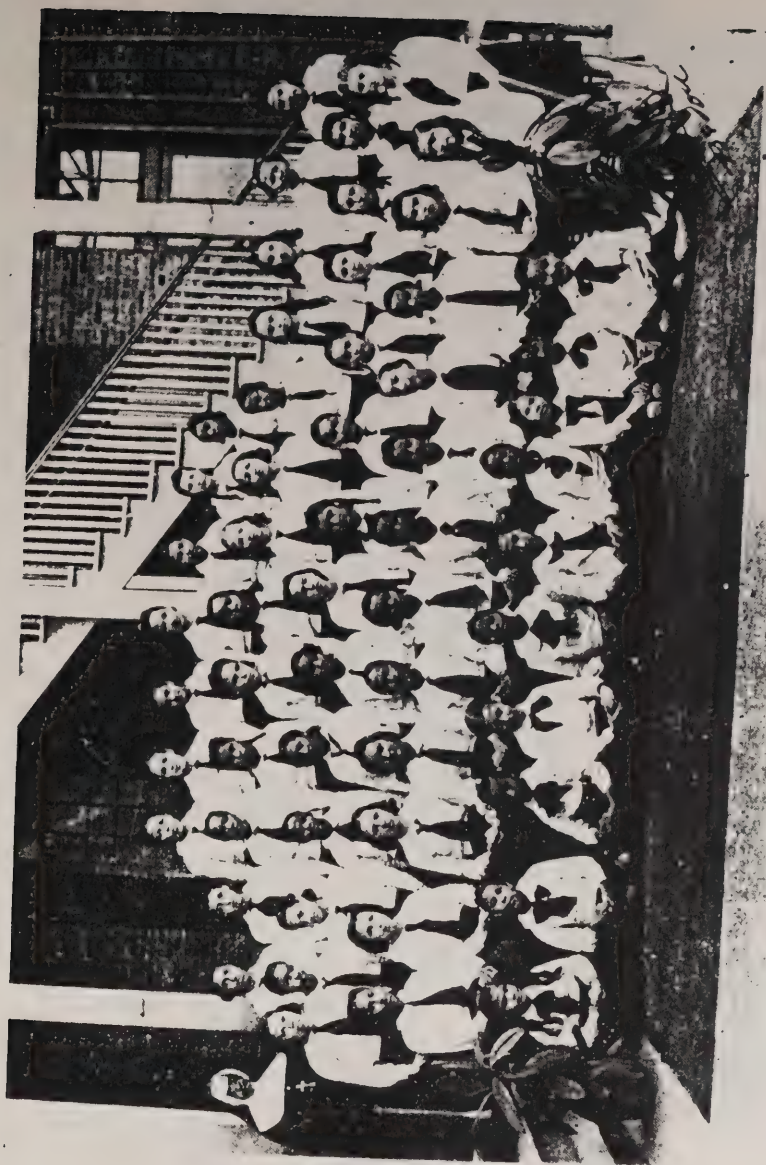
Four pigskin warriors of Xavier University; l. to r.: Edmondson, Carter, Pryor, Elliot.



Gridiron heroes of Xavier's vaunted Goldrush team. Top: Moion, Williams, Dabney and Miles. Bottom: Jackson and Pitts. "Geechie", Bissant, New Orleans lad, who attended Wiley College, is generally conceded to be the most outstanding football prospect ever developed in New Orleans.



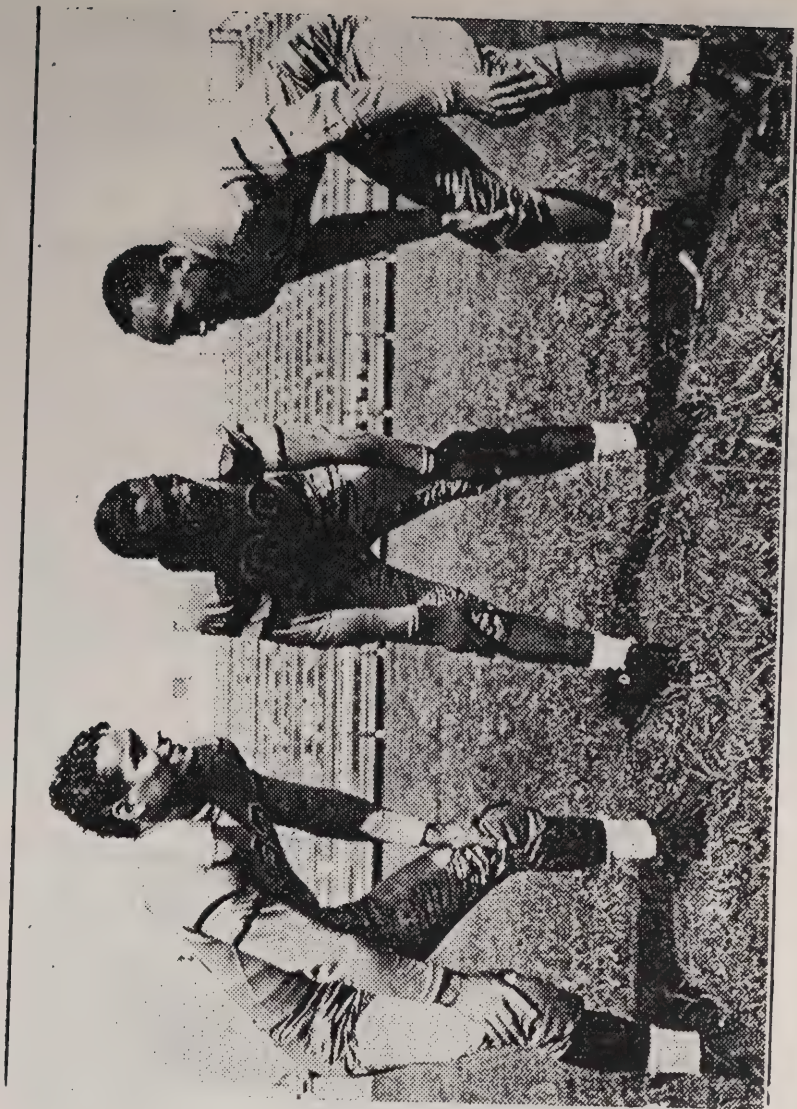
Action shot of Xavier's Cheering Squad.



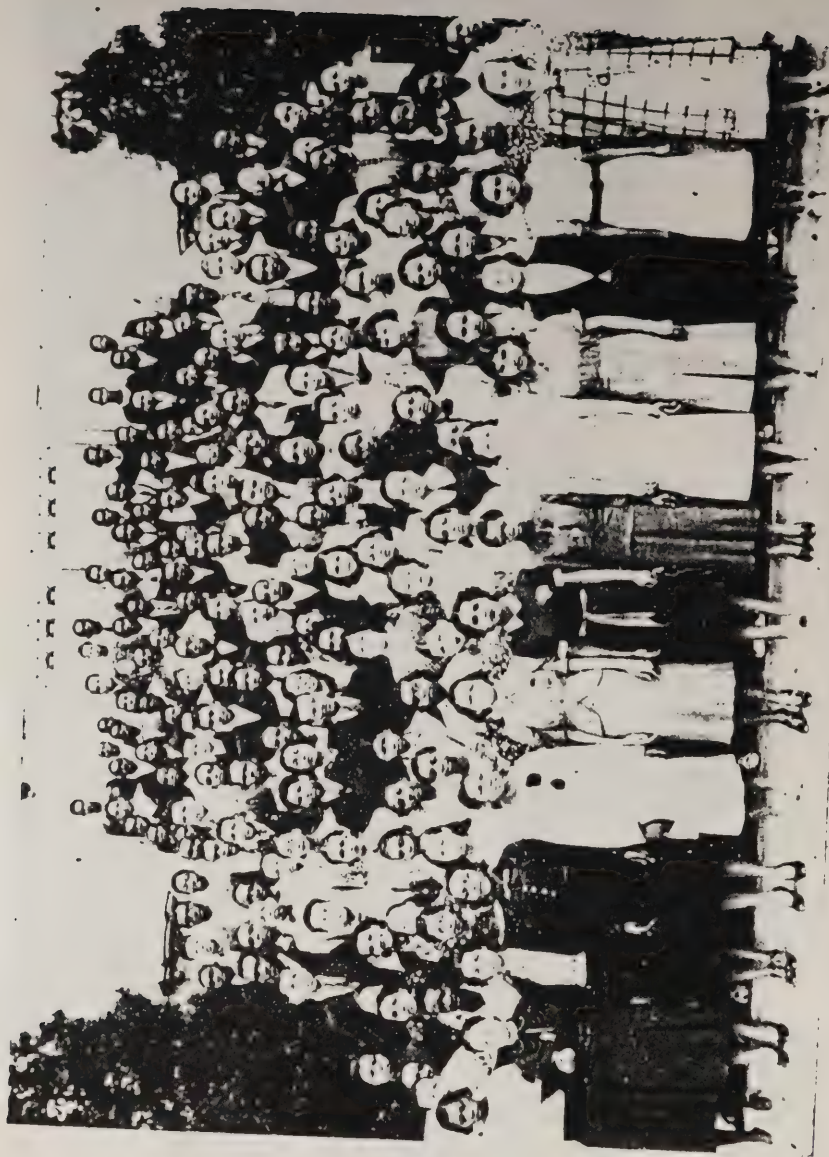
Resident students of the Holy Family Convent.



Xavier's spacious Gymnasium and quarter-mile cinder path; in the foreground are seen Xavier's excellent clay courts.



Xavier's All-Americans: Doram, Workman and Miles.



A Freshman Group at Xavier University.



Science Club at Xavier University.



A scene during the National Eucharistic Congress in New Orleans, '39.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE NEW ORLEANS NEGRO IN MUSIC

The Negro musicians of America are playing a great part . . . They have an open mind, an unbiased outlook. They are causing new blood to flow in the veins of music. The jazz players make their instruments do entirely new things, things finished musicians are taught to avoid. They the pathfinders into new realms.

—STOKOWSKI

Nowhere in America is there found a musician capable of producing the weird harmonies, the spine-tingling rhythms and the irresistible melodies of the New Orleans Negro musicians.

If it were not for the fact that music is a universal gift, one could almost venture to express the opinion that the Negro of New Orleans had been particularly endowed with special musical attributes.

Although there is a wide divergence of opinion as to the origin of jazz, it is entirely plausible that jazz originated somewhere along the back streets and dimly-lighted alleyways of the tenement districts of Negro New Orleans. Here, in truth, was the pathetic, abandoned setting needed to give birth to the peculiar musical conglomeration of sweet, depressing, smooth and distorted effects commonly termed jazz.

Negro banjoists and guitarists were familiar scenes during the river boat era. The original dances, jigs and walks of Negro dancers were forerunners of most of our popular dances of the day.

Even today most of the bands furnishing music for the decorated trucks of Carnival Clubs which follow in the wake of Rex are furnished by Negro bands.

One New Orleans Negro, A. J. Piron, has written several popular numbers—the best known of which is "I Wish I Could Shimmy Like My Sister Kate". Piron formerly operated a dance pavillion atop of the building which was formerly owned by the Knights of Pythias. This dance salon was called "Piron's Garden of Joy".

Currently, most of the big name bands come to New Orleans at regular intervals. Because of the existing segregation, in most instances they appear at places of Negro Amusement. Two of the most popular spots, for the appearance of these bands are: The Rhythm Club and The Tick Tock Tavern located on Rampart Street. Some of the nationally famous



Kinder Band at St. Mary's Academy.

bands to be heard in New Orleans recently were: Jimmie Lunceford, "Tiny" Bradshaw, Ella Fitzgerald and "Fats" Waller.

Of the local bands which are presently in action the most popular ones are: "Papa" Celestin, Sidney Desvigne, Herbert Leary, Paul Barbarin, Clyde Kerr, Henry Horton, Robichaux's Orchestra and Don Raymond.

Leon René, a New Orleans boy, has had the honor and distinction of writing a song hit that has been featured from coast to coast. This song is: "When the Swallows Come Back to Capistrano". He is presently working on several new song hits.

Several New Orleans Negroes have won fame and fortune on the "Great White Way". Among these we might mention the following: King Oliver, "Red" Allen, Barney Bigard, featured saxophonist in "Duke" Ellington's band, "Zuddie" Singleton and Louis Armstrong.

Synonymous with American jazz is the name of Louis Armstrong, perhaps, the most celebrated swing musician ever to hail from the Crescent City. Armstrong has been hailed as America's premier trumpeteer. He has scored sensational hits on the radio, on Broadway, in the movies and in the stellar night clubs of the nation.

Once in New Orleans at the exclusive Club Forest, a white suburban niter, Armstrong broke all existing attendance records with his famous "scat" singing.

Other Negro bands have been featured on the Steamer President and the Steamer Capitol, two of the last remaining pleasure boats and sight-seeing steamers operating on the Mississippi. These include Fate Marable, "Fats" Pichon and Piron, who is a violinist.

At Xavier University, Allegretto Alexander of the Xavier Music Department, has done a great deal in the field of direction. Xavier boasts of a Military Band and a Little Symphony Orchestra. The latter is annually presented in an out-door concert. Alexander, a graduate student at Northwestern University, has written several original compositions. One of the best of these is "Rhapsody in C", which was composed on the occasion of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, founders of Xavier University in New Orleans.

All of New Orleans' musical activity among Negroes has not been confined to jazz. Much has been done along a more serious line.

Frederick Hall of Dillard University, who is located at the Montgomery State Teachers' College this fall, has done a notable and con-



Eva Boudreaux Page, lovely operatic starlet formerly of Xavier's Music Dept. Xavier and Dillard have made phenominal strides in the field of Music.

spicuous piece of work. Dillard boasts of several unique singing ensembles. Yearly, Dillard presents a Festival of Arts which features much original talent in the fields of music, art and dramatics.

Dr. Hall has spent quite some time abroad and is the composer of several cantatas and oratorios, which have been presented by Dillard's Music Department.

Xavier's Male Octette has been featured over radio station WWL; one of Dillard's male quartets is now featured over an eastern net work.

One of New Orleans' finest products is Camille Nickerson of the Howard University Department of Music. She has done a notable piece of work in collecting creole folk songs.

Another New Orleans product in the field of classical music is Andrew Rosemond of Tuskegee's department of string instruments.

Xavier University, under the direction of Sisters Elise, Mary of the Paraclete and Letitia, has presented Operas in English for the past several years. These have received much praise and commendation from recognized critics. They have, also, unearthed much latent musical talent. Some of the operas that have been presented to capacity audiences are: "Faust", "Tales of Hoffman", "Il Trovatore", and "Mignon". Hurve Rachal, Elwood Smith, Eva Boudreaux Page, Morrison Comeaux, Gwendolyn Wright and Georgiana McBride Rose are some of the singers who have been featured in Xavier's operatic productions.

The W.P.A. band is doing a worthwhile job in supplying much needed concerts in the parks and playgrounds of Negro New Orleans. Many of the members of this band are finished musicians, capable of symphony work.

Several quartets have been featured over the radio. For the most part, they have specialized in Negro folk melodies. The most popular of these singing groups have been the Gibbs Singers. Other singing ensembles in New Orleans (Negro) are the Gayle Singers and the Barker *A Capella* Singers.

No survey of Negro musicians of New Orleans would be complete without passing mention of Osceola Blanchet. For many years McDonogh 35 High School, of which institution he is a teacher, presented colorful operettas and musical extravaganzas at the Pythian Theatre. Osceola is an accomplished accompanist. Once, when Todd Duncan came to New Orleans to sing, he was his accompanist.



Band of Gilbert Academy.



Football team of Gilbert Academy.

The B♯ Music Club has helped stimulate and encourage interest in the higher type of music among Negroes in New Orleans. This club has, also, a Junior division. Two of the leading figures in this group are Mesdames: Charles Thornhill and Camille McCann. Their feature activity is the Annual Carnival Musicale, one of the cultural milestones of Negro New Orleans. This event is attended by hundreds of native New Orleanians and out-of-town guests.

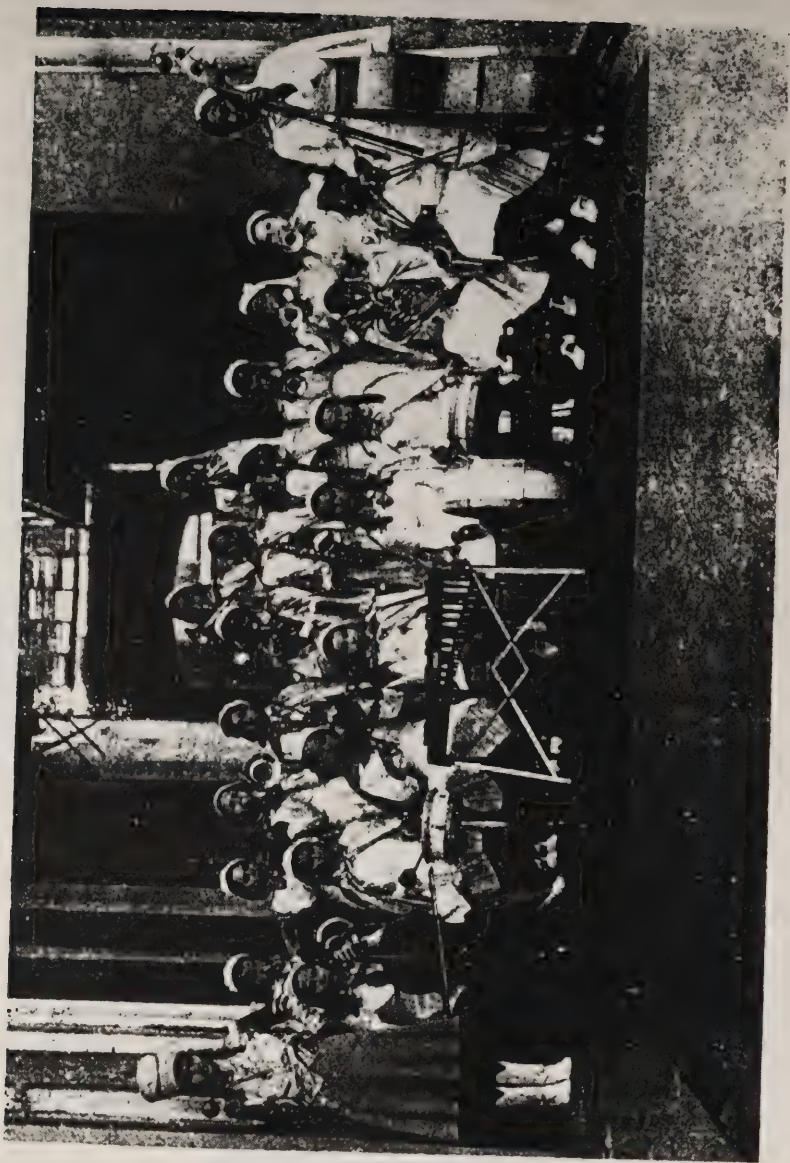
All in all, the Negro in New Orleans has achieved considerable renown in the field of Music. "Jelly Roll" Morton, Henry "Red" Allen and a score of other celebrities have helped spread the fame and glory of New Orleans.

The Public Schools are doing a fine piece of work, also, in helping develop Negro musical talent. Several of the schools have representative bands; these schools include Craig, Valena C. Jones, McDonogh No. 6 and Thomy Lafon. Lafon's music teacher and band director is Valmore Victor who has developed several finished musicians.

Lucille Meine Hutton is the first visiting teacher of Music to be employed in the Negro division of the Public School System. Several months ago, during Music Week, a Negro group was featured via the air waves of one of the local radio stations.

Truly, the New Orleans Negro has inherited a rich musical heritage; prospects for the future are still very bright. It is hoped that the Negro of New Orleans will continue his love for music. Special stress should be placed on individual instruction such as that featured at St. Mary's Academy under the direction of Louis Wilcox.

No race of people, has a greater love of music than the Negro; no city has a greater love of music than New Orleans.



Crack student orchestra of St. Mary's Academy.



Colorful street pageant during Mardi Gras featuring St. Mary's Academy.



Beerenice Allain, violinist and Lastinia Martinez, pianist, two stellar local musicians.



Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong.
New Orleans most famous swingologist.



Impressive street pageant at Mardi Gras observances of the St. Mary's Academy



Duke Ellington snapped with a bevy of Xavier beauties.





"Studio", a prize-winning painting of Numa J. Rousseve's.



Joe "Scoop" Jones, ex-photographer of the Louisiana Newspaper, who is one of the hundreds of local lads to be called to the colors.



Patriotic display in Xavier's Library directed by Sisters Redempta, Christine and Guadalupe of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament.





Ellsworth Whaley and Audrey Elliott in
"The Taming of the Shrew."



Evelio Grillo, French Dramatist of Xavier.



Corinne de Lay, one of the many young
sport's enthusiasts of the Delta City.



Ruth Bartholomew, typical sorority leader
of New Orleans. She is an A. K. A.



Dramatic scene from a local amateur musical production featuring collegiate talent.



Little Theatre Group in a Dramatic Rendition; Randolph Edmonds of Dillard has helped drama develop locally.



Religious festival at St. Mary's Academy .



Reginald Rouzan of the Louisiana Weekly Newspaper presenting checks to winners in "Greater News Contest."

CHAPTER SIX

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

The friend of the South is he who studies present-day Southern life critically and objectively and who supports inter-racial cooperation on the basis of the immediate material interests of the two races.

—THOMAS DABNEY.

In the subsequent pages of this book appear sketches of some of New Orleans' leading Negro citizens. It has been the aim and the intention of the author to give a "cross-section" of various walks of life; for that reason many different occupations are represented. Elsewhere will, also, be found graphic illustrations symbolical of Negro life in New Orleans, as well as pictures depicting diverse facets of Negro life in New Orleans.

Therefore, it is fitting at this time to give a general summary of trends of Negro life in New Orleans. Certainly, in this manner, the reader can at least get a panoramic idea of what is now transpiring.

Education

Xavier University and Dillard University are the two local seats of higher education serving the needs of Negro youth. A. W. Dent is president of the latter institution; Mother M. Agatha of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament is president of the former. Each of these universities is exerting a vast influence on the culture and morality of the community.

The large majority of secondary students attend public high schools, of which there are presently four: McDonogh 35, Wicker, Landry and Hoffman. The opening of the newly built Booker T. Washington Comprehensive High School is scheduled for February of 1942.

There are several private high schools which have well-integrated curricula; these include Xavier Preparatory, Gilbert Academy, St. Mary's Academy and Gaudet Normal and Industrial School.

Local public elementary schools include the following: Marie C. Couvent, Joseph A. Craig, Rudolph T. Danneel, Fisk, James Weldon Johnson, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Valena C. Jones, Thomy Lafon, once the largest public elementary school in America, L. B. Landry, Lawton, Lee Station, James Lewis, Johnson Lockett, McDonogh 6, McDonogh 24, McDonogh 32, McDonogh 36, McDonogh 37, Medard Nelson,

Seabrook, Booker T. Washington, Albert Wicker Elementary and Sylvia Williams.

There are several private nurseries including the Bush, Lumber, and Martinez nurseries.

Two schools are conducted for the benefit of Commercial students. These are The Y. M. C. A. School of Commerce and the Y. W. C. A. School of Commerce conducted by Mrs. Lucien V. Alexis.

One of the parochial schools of the city is the Bethlehem Lutheran School.

New Orleans, which has a large percentage of Catholics numbered in its population, has several elementary schools conducted by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament (White). These include :Blessed Sacrament, Holy Ghost, St. Monica, St. Peter Claver and Corpus Christi.

Until recently, there was one Normal School for Negroes in New Orleans, the Valena C. Jones Normal and Practice School. This school's principal is Fannie C. Williams who is well-known nationally. The Normal school department has been discontinued.

Newspapers

The local Negro newspapers operate on a weekly basis. The two leading ones, from the standpoint of circulation, are the *Louisiana Weekly* which is the oldest weekly (Negro) in Louisiana, and the *New Orleans Sentinel*. The editor of the former is C. C. Dejoie, Jr., a graduate of Michigan University, and the editor of the latter is Donald Jones, a clerk in the local postal system.

Another popular New Orleans weekly is the *Sepia Socialite* which is edited by Alonzo B. Willis.

The local Negro weeklies have done a fine job of stimulating interest in better wages, better labor conditions and better living conditions in general for Negroes.

Leading Businesses

Typical of other sections of the nation, the two businesses in which Negroes of this vicinity have made the most progress are the fields of insurance and the fields of undertaking and embalming. Some of the leading insurance establishments are: The Peoples', whose president is James Lewis, Jr.; the Standard, president, W. G. Carradine; the Louisiana, president, Rivers Frederick; the Safety, president, Robert Vaucreson; the Supreme Industrial Life, president, Horace Rixner; the Victory, president, Dr. J. E. Simms; other insurance establishments are the Unity,



Meine's Garage on N. Claiborne Avenue.



The William Robinson Furniture Store, sole establishment of its type in New Orleans, operated by a Colored merchant.



Page Hotel on Dryades Street.



A typical beauty salon on upper Dryades Street.

the Fair Service Association, the Venus Insurance Co., the Universal Life Insurance Co., which recently took over the assets of the Liberty Industrial Life Insurance Co. which has been dissolved, the Good Citizens' Mutual Benefit Association, the Douglass Insurance Co., and the Duplain Rhodes Burial Insurance Co.

The present head of the Crescent City Funeral Directors Association is C. L. Dennis. Some of the leading mortuary concerns are: The Gertrude Geddes Willis Funeral Home, the Blandin Funeral Home, the Joseph P. Geddes Undertaking Co., the Geddes-Richards Undertaking Co., the Verrett Undertakers, the Henderson Funeral Home, the Rhodes Funeral Home, Carr and Llopis, Emile Labat Undertaking Co., the Dennis Mortuary Service, the Strudwick Funeral Home and the Good Citizen's Mortuary Service.

Successful Businesses

There are several outstanding businesses conducted by Negroes in the City of New Orleans. It would be indeed difficult to select the most outstanding ones; however here are a few. For purposes of simplification they are presented in outline form:

Photographers

A. P. Bedou, once the private photographer to Booker T. Washington; Collins Studios, an up-to-the-minute establishment located on S. Rampart St. and Common in the heart of New Orleans' commercial district; McLain's Studios and Paddio's, both of which establishments are located on Dryades St. in offices of the Louisiana Industrial Insurance Building; and the Magnolia Studio. Wright's Studios located on Washington Avenue is, also, a photographic establishment.

Engravers

The Graphic Arts Studios located on S. Galvez St. is one of the few establishments of its type in the South owned and operated by Negroes.

Florists

Florists include: Haydel's Flower Shoppe, Citizen's Florists and N. J. Morales.

Furniture

The sole furniture establishment, fully equipped, conducted by a member of the Negro race in New Orleans is the one operated by William Robinson, 87-year-old veteran.

Groceries

Over 45 retail groceries are operated by Negroes in New Orleans.

These establishments include: Amedee's, Bourges', Bland's, Boyd's, Cambre's, Davis', Feltus', Smith's and Washington's.

Haberdashers

One of the leading haberdashers is Bennett Ross' Men's Ready-to-Wear Shop. Another progressive retail establishment is Mae Johnson's Shoppe, which specializes in Ladies-Ready-to-Wear.

Trades

The labor organizations have made their presence distinctly felt. They have led the fight to get technical training for Negroes in the City of New Orleans, particularly in the fields of welding and other defense industries. The Carpenters, Plasterers, Painters, Paperhangers, Hod-Carriers, Interior Decorators and Bricklayers, to mention a few, have active, militant organizations. Recently the Pressers and Truckers have organized.

Cosmetics

T. L. Miller has the honor and the distinction of being the manufacturer of a nationally advertised product. He has done a great deal in the field of manufacturing soaps and facial preparations. Mecos Incorporated, whose president is Whitney Haydel, is, also, showing rapid progress in this line. Many of the leading beauty establishments and drug counters carry their products.

Jewelers

There are, at least, two Negro jewelers practising presently in the City of New Orleans. They are: I. Crump and E. Smith.

Excavator

Joseph Bartholomew, president of the Douglass Life Insurance Co., is one of the leading landscapers and excavators of the City of New Orleans. He owns a fleet of trucks, derricks, tractors and other mechanical equipment. He has built many of New Orleans' finest golf courses. Recently, he was awarded a contract to do hauling which ran into several figures.

Movers

Perhaps the outstanding local Negro mover is Harris, who has several streamlined moving vans. Other leading Negro movers are: Sanders Badie, the Johnson Brothers and King Brothers.

Organizations

Space does not permit us to print a complete list of all of the fine local organizations of a civic or educational nature. Therefore, we have en-



Cafeteria of the Flint Goodridge Hospital.

deavored to select a few of the most outstanding ones: New Orleans Urban League, Clarence Laws, Industrial Secretary; New Orleans Negro Board of Trade, A. V. Boutte, Sr., president; local branch of the N. A. A. C. P., Reverend C. C. Taylor, president; Louisiana Colored Teachers Association, George Longe, president; New Orleans Teachers Association, Zelma W. Smith, president; Xavier Alumni Association, Victor Labat, president; Y. M. C. A., W. H. Mitchell, Jr., Executive Secretary; Y. W. C. A., Marie Jefferson, Director; New Orleans Pharmaceutical, Medical and Dental Society, Dr. R. L. Figgins, president; Colored Ministerial Alliance, Reverend Coleman, president; Methodist Ministerial Alliance, Reverend W. T. Handy, president; Boy Scout Field Executive, Washington Butler; New Orleans Principals Association, Lawrence D. Crocker, Sr., president.

Labor

Negroes of every walk of life are beginning to organize. They are beginning to utilize the tools of collective organization. The Longshore workers are typical examples of the inroads the labor movement has made among Negroes of New Orleans. Today in the unskilled as well as the skilled trades—Negroes of New Orleans are using the science of unionism to get better wages and working conditions.

Salesmen

Chief representative of New Orleans salesmen is George Seals, one of the leading Chevrolet salesmen of the nation. Other salesmen of automobiles are Nathan Cox and Robert Francois. The leading breweries are, also, employing Negro salesmen. They include: Naomi Richards Borikens and Wallace Marine.

Stationers

James Gayle and Sons is a dealer in stationery and books.

Service Stations

Leading garages and service stations include: Meine's, Barrois', Rollins', and the Billboard Service Station.

Pressers and Cleaners

There are any number of Negro pressing establishments. Joseph's, the New System, Muse's Pressing Shop and Butler's Cleaning establishments are among the best known. Butler, in particular, has a chain of branch cleaning and pressing shops.

Taxi Cabs

Taxi companies include: the V-8, the Astoria, the Pelican, Braden's Cab Service, Dejoie's, and Morrison's.

Radio Service

Curry, Jiles, Scottie, Melvin and Harrell among scores of others operate.

Negroes have begun to enter every occupation to which they can gain admittance. It is true that in the case of plumbing, for example, no Negroes have as yet been able to gain licenses; however this will come with time.

There is every reason to believe that with increased technical training and the spread of the labor movement that Negroes can expect better working conditions despite the present economic differentials which exist.

Likewise, with a broadened educational plane, the Negro of New Orleans can look forward to better preparation in the fields of scholarship and advanced education.

* * * *

One of New Orleans' favorite sons is Dr. Charles Franklin, who has a government position in Washington, D. C. Franklin received his M.A. and Ph.D. Degrees from Columbia University in New York City, N. Y. His field of specialization is Economics.

* * * *

Any number of New Orleanians have done graduate work away from New Orleans. Some who have received Master Degrees from institutions located in the North or West are as follows: Clarence Hunt, Northwestern; Oscar Bouise, Michigan; Ferdinand Rousseve, Chicago; Ralph Metcalfe, University of Southern California; Euclydean Banks Hubbard, New York University.

* * * *

Lucien V. Alexis, Principal of McDonogh 35 High School, is a graduate of Harvard University. He is very proficient in the field of German and the Experimental Sciences. Several of his scientific treatises have been published and widely disseminated.

* * * *

Randolph S. Edmonds, Director of the New Orleans' Little Theatre, has written quite a few successful plays. As a member of the faculty of Dillard University, he yearly helps direct Dillard's Annual Arts Festival.

* * * *

The King of this year's Zulu Parade is Clement Vandage, who is one of the Funeral Directors of the Gertrude Geddes Willis Funeral Home. This Carnival Parade annually attracts scores of spectators. The type

of parade presented by this organization has, also, caused considerable controversy.

* * * *

Charles B. Rousseve has the dual distinction of being the head of two outstanding teacher organizations: The New Orleans Colored Teachers' Credit Union and the local union of the Classroom Teacher's Federation.

* * * *

A. E. Perkins, Principal of Danneel Public School, is the author of a book, *"Who's Who In Colored Louisiana"*. Charles B. Roussève of the faculty of the Albert Wicker Junior High School is the author of *The Negro in Louisiana: Aspects of His History and His Literature*.

* * * *

The following list is a partial list of the principals of some of the local Public Schools: Marie Couvent, Lawrence Young; Joseph A. Craig, Maude Dedeaux; Rudolph T. Danneel, A. E. Perkins; Fisk School, Matthew Bowles; John W. Hoffman, Jr. High, Lawrence D. Crocker; James Weldon Johnson, Inez Labat Love; Valena C. Jones, Fannie C. Williams; Thomy Lafon, Samuel J. Green; Paul L. Dunbar, Maude Armstrong; L. B. Landry, I. M. Augustine; James Lewis, Iona Berteaux; Johnson Lockett, Edgar Harney; Macarty, Florence Lewis; McDonogh No. 6, Leonie Baudit; McDonogh No. 24, Connie Hill; McDonogh No. 37, O. C. W. Taylor; Medard Nelson, A. W. Arnaud; Albert Wicker Junior High School, George Longe; Albert Wicker Elementary, V. C. Thornton; Sylvania Williams, C. Bell.

* * * *

The Housing Projects sponsored by the Federal government have done a great deal to improve the living conditions of the Colored and white citizens of New Orleans. The projects which are presently being operated for the benefit of Colored are as follows: Magnolia Street Project, George Washington, Manager—this was the first project opened in the state; the Calliope Street Project, Huntington Dusuau, Manager; the Lafitte Street Project, Lionel J. Hoffman, Manager. Two other projects have been built for Negro tenants; however, they are not as yet being occupied or operated.

* * * *

A notable piece of work is being performed for the benefit of the Negro youth of the City of New Orleans by various social organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, Washington Butler, Field Director of



George Washington, Magnolia Street Project Manager, reviewing clients. Washington was the first Louisiana Negro appointed manager of a housing unit.



The Jos. P. Geddes Funeral Home, a well-equipped concern.

the local Negro division; the Y. W. C. A., Marie Jefferson, Executive Secretary and the Y. M. C. A., W. H. Mitchell, Jr., Executive Secretary.

* * * *

Xavier University's Gymnasium and Stadium are centers of most of the athletic meets of the city in which Negroes participate. No Negro football games have ever been held in the Municipal Stadium; no boxing or other contests have ever been held at the Municipal Auditorium featuring Negro talent.

* * * *

Ralph Cager is the local director of the Negro division of the C.Y.O. Outside of Xavier University and St. Monica, most of the basketball tournaments are held on out-of-door clay, cement or asphalt courts.

* * * *

Byrd Crudup is the Head Coach of Dillard's Blue Devils; Xavier's coaching staff is composed of Head Coach, Theodore Wright; his assistants are: Giles Wright, James Despinasse, Robert Pearson and Ralph Metcalfe, who is, also, Head Track coach.

* * * *

James Lewis, Jr.

James Lewis, Jr., is the president of the People's Industrial Life Insurance Company. For many years he has been identified with the leading civic and educational movements of New Orleans.

Since its opening, he has served on the Board of Directors of the Lehman Playground Committee. This is one of the few fairly decent and representative playgrounds serving the Negro youth of New Orleans. It represents, however, a private bequest.

Today, James Lewis, Jr. is one of the leaders of his group in the field of business and finance. He is, also, one of the guiding spirits behind the Republican Party in the City of New Orleans.

* * * *

Haidel Christophe

Haidel Christophe is the Secretary-Treasurer of the People's Industrial Life Insurance Company. In 1939, he celebrated twenty-five years of uninterrupted service at the aforementioned organization.

Christophe began as an humble office boy and arose to a position of trust and responsibility at the People's.

Christophe is active in the business and fraternal life of the commu-



C. C. Dejoie, Jr., Michigan University graduate, managing editor of the Louisiana Weekly Publishing Co., the oldest publication of its type in Louisiana (for Negroes).

nity. He is the Grand Knight of the Corpus Christi Council of the Knights of Peter Claver.

Ferdinand L. Rousseve

Ferdinand L. Rousseve has the honor of being the first licensed Negro architect in the State of Louisiana.

He is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Chicago University. At present, he is the head of the Fine Arts Department of Xavier University.

He is a member of the College Art Association, the National Technical Association, Les Amis de la Culture et de la Litterature Franchise.

His ability as an architect is reflected in many of the edifices of the city, which represent his designing.

* * * *

Two outstanding physicians born or bred in New Orleans are Dr. Peter Marshall Murray of New York City and Dr. T. K. Lawless of Evanston, Illinois. The former is a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynecology; the latter is a famous skin specialist, who is one of the learned scientists serving on the Medical faculty of the University of Northwestern.

* * * *

George Longe

George Longe, President of the Louisiana Colored Teachers' Association, is the principal of the Albert Wicker Junior High School on Canal Street. He has held this position since 1928.

He is a graduate of Straight College and Talledaga College. He is, also, doing work leading towards a Ph.D. Degree at Chicago University.

In 1935, he served as the General Chairman of the Negro division of the Community Chest. He is a member of practically all of the leading civic and educational organizations including: the Urban League, the Elks, the Knights of Pythias and the N.A.A.C.P.

A few years ago, he was appointed by the Superintendent of the Orleans Parish Schools as Chairman of a Committee of Teachers and Principals to work out a course of study in Negro History for all grades of the elementary and high schools in the City of New Orleans.



Office force of local insurance concern.



The Standard Insurance Company,
W. G. Carradine, Pres.



The Dryades Street Y. M. C. A.



Autocrat Club on St. Bernard Avenue,
J. E. Wilkins, Pres.



Peoples' Life Insurance Company,
James Lewis, Jr., President.



Alphas Banquet in honor of Jesse Owens in '38 at Autocrat Club.



Graduates of local college enrolled in Lincoln University Law School in Missouri.



Miss Shirley Randolph, Queen of Xavier's '41 Homecoming.



Lorraine Launeville, Xavier graduate, now enrolled in Meharry University Medical School. Negro girl graduates are now entering the fields of Pharmacy, Medicine, Dental Hygiene, etc.



Staff members of local Housing Projects — Left to right: Mrs. Marie Paul; Lionel Hoffman, director Lafitte Project; Sheldon Mays, manager St. Bernard Project, and Mrs. D. Cager.





Typical scene of Rampart St., New Orleans' "Beale Strete."



"Confidence Game" operating in broad-open-daylight on S. Rampart St.

Part II

Pictorial and Biographical Section

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

I.

New Orleans! The City Care Forgot! . . . shaped like a crescent . . . tinted with the radiance of azaleas and camellias . . . over-shadowed by giant oaks and stately palms . . . gate-way to Latin America . . . center of inland river traffic . . . birthplace of American skyscrapers.

New Orleans! City of Contrasts! . . . rendezvous of pirates . . . refuge of statesmen . . . mecca of celebrities . . . so famed in legend and song . . . City of New World splendor . . . City of Old World Charm . . . in your annals are imbedded the sweat and blood and tears of men and women of every faith and fortune in life . . . gay cavaliers, conquering conquistadores, smuggling buccaneers, soldiers of fortune, stout-hearted settlers, gallants, statesmen, craftsmen, lusty roustabouts . . . in your glory is forever enshrined the heroic deeds of white and black patriots . . . in your inspiring memoirs appear the sacrifices and accomplishments of men and women of every race and nationality . . . Bienville, Tonti, Miro, Claiborne, Lafon, Antoine, Pinchback, Fortier, Lejeune.

2.

By every fragment of law and logic, the citizens of the Colored Race in New Orleans, and throughout the width and breadth of the nation, deserve complete political emancipation. When America dissolves its barriers of discrimination the 13,000,000 Negro citizens of this great continent will see the Constitution become a living reality fully translated into action.

Today in New Orleans it is remarkable when we consider the progress the Negro citizen has been able to make despite the multiple barriers which obstruct his advancement. Typical of conditions elsewhere in the South-land the following exist:

1. Colored citizens of New Orleans are still not allowed the free exercise of the ballot, the very key to democratic government.
2. There is at present no school serving the Negro youth of New Orleans equipped with gymnastic facilities.
3. There are, at present, practically no decent parks or playgrounds

for the use of Negro citizens. In isolated instances, where there is space designated for the use of Colored, it is usually minus, in most cases, any regulation equipment.

4. Only one "Swimming pool" at present is available. This pool, the Sylvania Williams Pool, has a maximum depth of approximately 8 feet. Regulation swimming meets or diving tournaments are out of the question, because of its miniature size.
5. Thus far, no provision has been made for the training of Negro youth in the skilled trades. Negro leaders are still agitating for a Trade School.
6. Only one library exists for the service of Negro New Orleans. It is poorly equipped and inadequate to the needs of 170,000 people.
7. Less than five of the public schools utilized for the instruction of Negro youth are modern, up-to-date structures. In many cases, the schools, presently serving the Negro youth of the city, are ramshackle affairs.
8. The Municipal Auditorium still maintains a policy of complete segregation.

These and many more conditions remain to be eradicated. Naturally, this process will take time, patience and militant action to remedy. The real heroes of this situation are the broadminded members of both races, who are struggling to create a better understanding between the races.

In the pages which follow, we have presented brief sketches of some of the representative Negroes in New Orleans. With the limited means at our disposal it was impossible to present more than a "Cross-section". We hope that these biographies will, at least, show some of the worthwhile results being accomplished by educated Negroes of New Orleans. Too often have we viewed only the sombre, the ungainful, the unproductive side of Negro life. Here, we believe, is a first-hand opportunity to acquaint ourselves with some of the pleasantries of Negro life in New Orleans.



Mohammed Shaik, Octave Rainey and Adolph Moret, three local lads to complete C. A. A. courses this past summer. Since the outbreak of World War II many New Orleans Negroes have tried to enter the Air Corps.



Main Entrance of Xavier University conducted by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament,
a white religious order founded by Rev. Mother Katherine Drexel.



Lehman Playground on N. Claiborne Avenue at Lafitte Street.



Scene on N. Claiborne Avenue looking towards St. Bernard Avenue.

"Minute biographies of a Representative Cross-Section of Negro New Orleans".



William Roosevelt Adams

Dr. W. R. Adams, M.D., was born in Paducah, Kentucky on November 15, 1900. During President Coolidge's reign he was commissioned as a Lieutenant of Infantry in the United States Army Officers Reserve.

In 1927 he received a Doctor of Medicine Degree from Howard University. He spent a period of training at Freedmen's Hospital and at the Columbia Hospital for Women.

Since 1928, Dr. Adams has practised Medicine in the City of New Orleans.

At the moment, he is president of the general staff of Flint Goodridge Hospital.

George Allain

George A. Allain, a successful contractor, was born in 1897 during the month of February. He was born in Pointe Coupée Parish. His father was a farmer and a cattle dealer.

He is the father of seven children: Berenice, George Jr., Leon, Stella Mae, Therese, Andrew and Celine.

Most of his knowledge of contracting was received through apprenticeship, study and observation. His education was of a grammar-school level.

He is identified with many of the leading civic and fraternal organizations of the city.





Charles H. D. Bowers

Dr. Charles H. D. Bowers, M.D., is the son of Reverend and Mrs. F. D. Bowers of the Louisiana Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was born in Houma, La.

He is a graduate of New Orleans University and Meharry Medical College.

Since April of 1940, he has been the director of the Syphilis Project at Flint Goodridge Hospital.

Dr. Bowers has done special study at New York University in Internal Medicine. He has two children, one son and one daughter.

He is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and other leading organizations.

Wilbur Greenberry Carradine

W. G. Carradine is the president of the Standard Industrial Life Insurance Company located on N. Claiborne Avenue. His mother and father were both born in slavery.

He was born in December of 1873 at the old Benn Emma Plantation on Bayou Mecon, on what is now Wisner, La., in Franklin Parish.

For many years he conducted a successful grocery in Rayville, La. Though only possessing the rudiments of a formal education, Carradine is one of the leading Negroes in his field in New Orleans.

He is a member of the Baptist Church, the Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Odd Fellows.





Ernest Delpit

Ernest Delpit is President and Business Manager of the Local 2039 of the Carpenters' Union. This union is an A. F. of L. affiliate.

He received his education at Straight College, where he completed the ninth grade. He, also, attended the school conducted by the Sisters of the Holy Family.

Delpit has been very active in the civic and fraternal organizations of the city. He is a member of the Carpenters' District Council, The Knights of Peter Claver, and the Building and Construction Trades Council.

Herbert Owen Eagan

Dr. Herbert O. Eagan, O.D., D.O.S., is a native of Belize, British Honduras. He has studied at Northwestern University and the Northern Illinois College of Optometry.

He is registered in Illinois, British Honduras, Mexico and Louisiana. He received his B.S. degree at Northwestern.

He is a member of Beta Sigma Kappa, International Honorary fraternity, the Illinois Social Club and the Better Vision Institute.



Joseph P. Geddes

Joseph P. Geddes is the son of George D. Geddes, founder of the George D. Geddes Undertaking Company and the Unity Life Insurance Company. He is a product of the New Orleans Public Schools and of Tuskegee Institute.

Since his early youth, he has been connected with the Funeral Directing Business. He is affiliated with the National Negro Business League, the Local Negro Chamber of Commerce and many other leading civic and industrial organizations.



Joseph A. Hardin

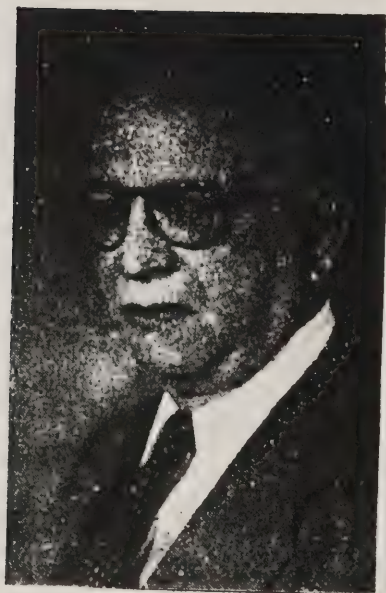
Dr. Joseph A. Hardin, M.D., was born on July 29, 1875 in Scooba, Mississippi. His father was a physician and farmer.

He received his early training via private school. In 1904, he was graduated from Sarah Goodridge Medical School.

During the period 1904-1926 he served on the faculty of the Old Flint Goodridge Medical College.

He is affiliated with a number of civic, political and educational organizations including the Autocrat Social and Pleasure Club, the Republican State Central Committee and the Advisory Committee of the N. Y. A.

He is the Medical Director of the Venus Insurance Company and the Soci  t   Les Jeunes Amis.



W. Talbot Handy

Reverend W. T. Handy, one of the leading Methodist ministers of this vicinity, was born in Hazelhurst, Mississippi. He was one of nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Handy of that city.

He did his elementary school work in Hazelhurst, Mississippi. Later on he graduated from Tuskegee Institute, Alabama; New Orleans University; Gammon Theological Seminary and Rust College.

In 1921, he began his career as a Methodist minister. He is one of the five Negroes on the World Service Commission and is a member of the General Conference of the Methodist Church.

Mt. Zion Methodist Church is the church Reverend Handy is presently in charge of.



Belmont Haydel

Belmont Haydel, one of New Orleans' leading colored florists, was born in St. John Parish in the year of 1906. He received his education at Xavier High School, where he was graduated in 1926.

During his high school days, he spent four years of service in the employ of a white retail florist. After finishing his high school education, he spent ten years in the service of a wholesale florist. This gave him invaluable experience, which led to the opening, in 1935, of his own flower shop.

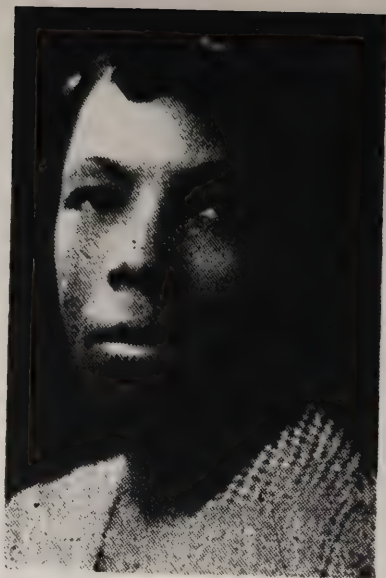
Haydel has successfully passed the state floricultural examination. He is one of the charter members of the New Orleans Negro Board of Trade, of which organization he is one of the directors.



Mada Porter Kennedy

Mrs. Mada Porter Kennedy is a native of Smithdale, Mississippi. She received her education at Harper's College in the same state at Gloster. She has, also, done extension work at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

For over 15 years she has been engaged in Beauty Culture. At present, she is the co-owner of the Poro Beauty Shoppe at 2109 Dryades Street.



Clarence Laws

Clarence Laws is the energetic Industrial Secretary of the New Orleans Urban League. He was born on March 23, 1907, in Opelousas, La.

His father was H. V. Laws, a baker and his mother was Angenia Gradnigo Laws, a trained nurse. His wife is Lillian Perrilliat Laws, a public school teacher.

Laws is a graduate of Straight University in New Orleans, La. For the past several years, he has served on the Advisory Committee of the N. Y. A. He is, also, a member of the Knights of Peter Claver, the New Orleans Negro Board of Trade and the National Council of Social Agencies.



J. F. McKay

McKay, who is known among his wide circle of friends and acquaintances, of both races, as "Frank", has the honor and distinction of being the first licensed Negro electrician in New Orleans.

He has won several Safety Certificates because of the excellence of his electrical installments. He is happily married and has three sons and one daughter. He has been conspicuously active in civic and educational work in the community.

He is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.



William Henry Mitchell, Jr.

W. H. Mitchell, Jr., is the Executive Secretary of the Dryades Street branch of the Y. M. C. A. He was born in Princeton, New Jersey on April 6, 1898.

He received his education at Princeton High School in Springfield, Massachusetts, the University of Southern California and Columbia University. He is married to Oralee Baranco Mitchell and has one daughter, Sue Jane.

During 1933-34 he served as director of one of the Federal Transient set-ups. He has, also, served as a visiting lecturer at the Atlanta University School of Social Service.

He is a 32nd Degree Mason and a member of Sigma Pi Phi and Sigma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha.

John Robert Patterson

John Robert Patterson was born on August 30, 1892, in Monroe, La. His father was Robert Patterson, a chef and his mother was Georgia Patterson. His wife is Ethel Priestley Patterson. He has three daughters and one son.

Patterson received his education at Southern University. For over 36 years he has been engaged in business. For many years he operated a retail grocery in Monroe. At present, he manages the 40-room Patterson Hotel in New Orleans, La., at 802½ S. Rampart Street.



William Stephens

William Stephens, one of the few licensed Negro male beauticians in the State, was born in 1908 in St. Francisville, La.

He received his basic training at the Neola School of Beauty Culture. He has two sons, William Stephens, Jr., and Robert Stephens.

He is affiliated with the Master Barbers of America and the local Beauticians' Union.

He is the owner and operator of Steve's Beauty Parlor located on Third Street in New Orleans, La.

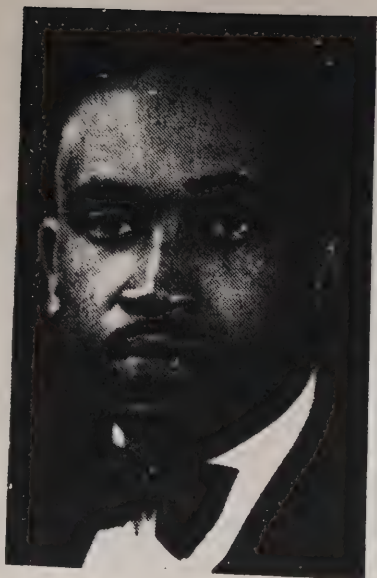
Paul T. Robinson

Dr. Paul T. Robinson, M.D., is a native of Lewisville, Arkansas. He received his M.D. Degree from Meharry Medical College, after graduating from Bishop College.

At present, he is the Senior Associate in the Department of Surgery at Flint Goodridge Hospital.

He is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, the National Medical Association and the New Orleans Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association.

He is the founder of the journal published by the New Orleans Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association.



Cleveland Charles Taylor

Reverend C. C. Taylor was born in Lockport, La. in 1914. He received a B.D. Degree from Conroe College and at present is pursuing a course leading to an A.B. Degree at Dillard University.

For the past several years, 7½ to be exact, he has pastored John Fourth Baptist Church.

Presently, he is President of the local branch of the N.A.A.C.P. and Vice-President of the Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance.

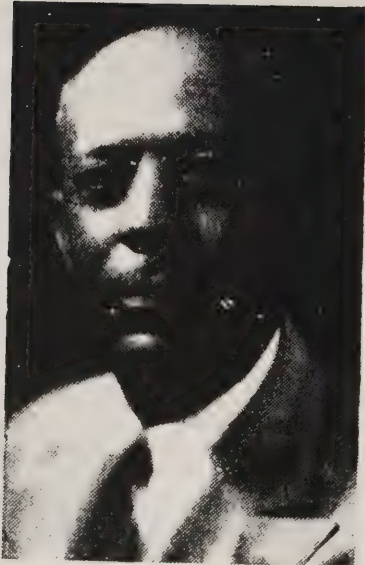
Minus Wilson

Minus Wilson was born in Louisville, La. on October 28, 1895. He received his education at Israel Academy in Assumption Parish.

During the first World War he served as a soldier on the battlefields of France. He was honorably discharged from the American army in July of 1919.

Since 1923 he has resided in New Orleans, where he has been engaged in the barber business.

He is presently the proprietor of a modern Barber Shop and Beauty Salon at 3212-14 Dryades Street. In his employ are six individuals.



Philip G. Wiltz

Dr. Philip G. Wiltz, M.D., was born on February 10, 1894, in Parks, La. He was the eldest son of eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Wiltz.

Dr. Wiltz is a graduate of Meharry Medical College at Nashville, Tenn. Since 1925, he has practised medicine in the City of New Orleans.

Dr. Wiltz is, also, familiar with the printing trade. For three years he attended the Industrial School located at Clayton, Delaware.

Andrew J. Young

Dr. A. J. Young, D.D., is a graduate of Straight College and Howard University's Department of Dentistry. He has two boys, Andrew, Jr., aged 9 and Walter Fuller Young, aged 6.

He has been engaged in practical dentistry since 1921, in the City of New Orleans. Between 1938-1941, he was employed as dentist by the State Hospital Board of Louisiana. While working under the supervision of this department he serviced indigent cases throughout the State.

During the past few months, he has been busy directing the Negro division of the New Orleans' Community Chest Drive for 1941.





C. C. Dejoie, Sr., President of the Louisiana Weekly Newspaper. Local Negro newspapers have helped focus public attention on discrepancies which exist in the education of Whites and Negroes, etc.

Miscellanies

New Orleans boasts of several outstanding Negro salesmen among whom we might mention: Automobiles, George Seals and Robert Francois; Beer, Wallace Marine, Naomi Richards Borikens, Lieutenant Perry.

* * * *

Three New Orleans Negroes have completed courses in Aviation; they are: Mohammed Shaik, Adolph Moret and Octave Rainey.

* * * *

Some of the Catholic Parochial Schools of the city are: Holy Ghost, St. Peter Claver, St. Monica, Corpus Christi, St. Joan of Arc, Holy Redeemer, St. Raymond and the Blessed Sacrament.

* * * *

Armand V. Boutte, Jr., is one of the few Negro engravers engaged in this type of work in Louisiana.

* * * *

Adam Haydel

Adam Haydel of the Southern Auto Wreckers on Poydras Street is the manager of one of the largest establishments of its type in the state.

* * * *

Richmond Barthe, noted sculptor, a native of Mississippi, received a part of his education in the City of New Orleans. He is achieving considerable prowess in art in New York.

M. S. Davage, one of the leading officials of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is, also, a New Orleans product. At one time, he served as President of Clark University.

* * * *

Several of the local commercial concerns sponsor Negro Basketball and Softball teams. There is no park in New Orleans, exclusively for the use of Colored, equipped with arc lights.

* * * *

One of the most distinguished surgeons of the state is Dr. Rivers Frederick, President of the Louisiana Industrial Life Insurance Company, who is Chief Surgeon at the Flint Goodridge Hospital.

* * * *

The director of the Negro Division of the N. Y. A. in New Orleans is Herbert Mack. The director of the Adult Education Program is Romeo B. Garrett.

* * * *

In 1942, the Sisters of the Holy Family will celebrate their Centennial Anniversary.

* * * *

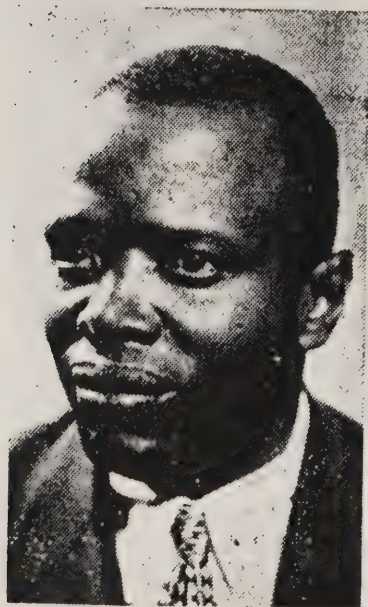
Corpus Christi is the largest Negro Catholic Church in America. It is located on St. Bernard Avenue and has more than 3,000 parishioners.



Ernest Wilderson, typical public school teacher; is married, attends Xavier's graduate school.



Emanuel Gregoire, correspondent for the Pittsburgh Courier.



Wesley Pitts, one of principal figures in local postal alliance.



Francis Hammond, Louvain graduate, instructor at Xavier University.



A. W. Dent,
President of Dillard University.



Dr. N. R. Davidson, Head of the Dept.
of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Flint-
Goodridge Hospital.



Dr. Felton G. Clark,
President of Southern University.



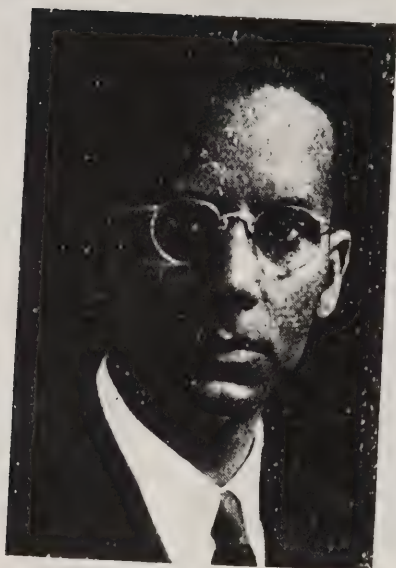
Rudolph Moses,
Dean of Dillard University.



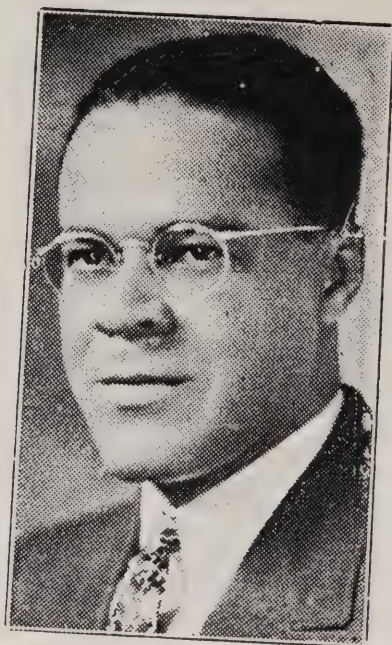
Dr. C. C. Haydel, Prominent Physician.



George Longe, Principal of
Albert Wicker, Jr. High School.



Charles B. Rousseve,
Author and Educational Leader.



Haidel Christophe, capable young
insurance executive.

LOUISIANA COLORED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENTS

J. B. LaFargue	1901, 1927-1928
J. W. Hunter	1903-1907
J. S. Clark	1908-1915
Jonas Henderson	1916-1917
J. M. Frazier	1918-1920
O. L. Coleman	1921-1922
R. E. Brown	1923-1924
M. J. Foster	1925-1926
F. G. Clark	1929-1930
Mrs. M. N. Ringgold	1931
R. C. Reynaud	1932
C. P. Adams	1933
F. P. Ricard	1934
J. L. Jones	1935
Cornelius King	1936-1938
George Longe	1939-1941

Objectives of The Louisiana Colored Teachers' Association

1. Organizing of teachers in each parish of the State into local organizations.
2. Increasing participation and membership of our teachers in the Louisiana Colored Teachers' Association.
3. Encouraging participation and memberships in the American Teachers' Association with emphasis on life memberships.
4. Calling of annual district state meetings by district vice-presidents, and urging each parish teachers' organization to send delegates to these meetings.
5. Exhibiting by vice-presidents of the L. C. T. A. at the annual convention, improvements in Negro Life and education in the various districts.
6. Encouraging L. C. T. A. support of the program of the Louisiana Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers in a very definite and concrete manner.
7. Encouraging, assisting and sup-
porting in every way possible the Louisiana Interscholastic Athletic and Literary Association.
8. Assisting the school boards and the State Department of Education in creating public opinion for trades education in Negro High Schools.
9. Securing the active cooperation of the State Department of Education in providing vocational and educational guidance for Negro youths.
10. Promoting nursery schools and kindergartens for Negro children.
11. Appointing a committee to assist in the evaluation and selection of textbooks.
12. Emphasizing the value of the teaching of Negro History in all of the schools of the State.
13. Working for higher standards of Juvenile Court Service and for the establishment of a state institution for Negro Juvenile

- delinquents.
14. Creating a committee for co-operating with agencies interested in and working for Negro welfare.
15. Creating a scholarship fund for assisting deserving students in Negro colleges of the State.
16. Stimulating interest in graduate work.
17. Working for a State professional library to go through the communities along with the children's circulating library.
18. Promoting the interests of committees connected with teacher welfare, salaries, retirement, tenure, sabbatical leave, etc.
19. Establishing a Teachers' Service Bureau which will furnish to all superintendents in the State lists of unemployed teachers and their qualifications.
20. Making such improvements in and additions to the journal as will make it an instrument for better Negro education in the state.
21. Continuing the active research committee that will publish important reports in special issues of the journal.
22. Approving and encouraging W. P. A. educational projects by devoting space in the journal to adult education and continuing the work of the committee on adult education which co-operates with the State Department of Education in eradicating illiteracy in Louisiana.
23. Examining financial reports of the editing-secretary and placing audited and certified copies of these reports in the hands of the members of the association at the annual convention.
24. Modifying the home office building plan and appointing a committee to plan the financing of a building without new obligations to the association.
25. Presenting to all presidents of the association gold keys bearing the official seal.
26. Making a survey of all parishes for the purpose of ascertaining facts concerning our handicapped children.
27. Sponsoring the organization of Federal credit unions for the purpose of promoting thrift among the members of the association, and for creating a source of credit for provident and protective use.
28. Appointing a committee on the appraisal and evaluation of the convention program.
29. Publishing the proceedings of the 1940 convention.
30. Creating public opinion for the Louisiana Colored Teachers' Association and the Louisiana Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers through appointment of a committee on public relations.



Father Rousseve, Negro priest from
New Orleans.



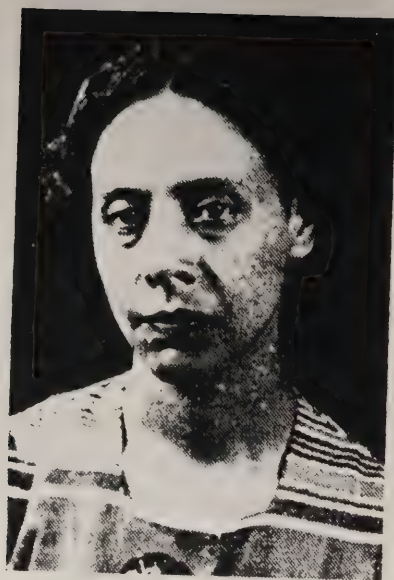
Church of Notre Dame de Perpetuel
Secour at St. Martinsville, La.



Whitney Haydel, manufacturing chemist
of the Mecos Products.



Victor Labat, faculty member of
Xavier University.



Inez C. Jones, operator of the Jones Radio Shoppe.



Lawrence Young, Principal of the Marie C. Couvent Public School, site of the '41 L. C. T. A. Convention.



Darlene Cager, commercial graduate of the Y. M. C. A., secretary on the local Housing Authority.



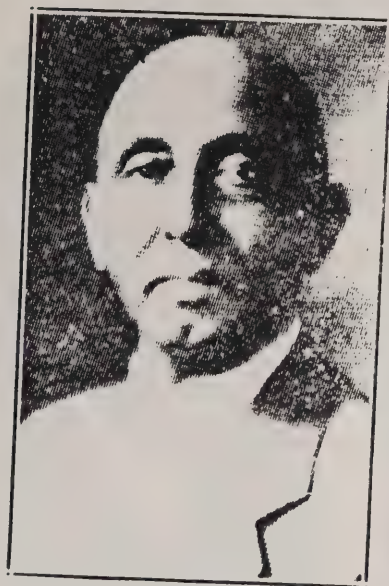
Bernadine Gonzales, one of the Junior members of the B = Music Club.



James Lewis, Jr., local philanthropist.



Washington Butler, director of the Negro division of the Boy Scouts.



Treasurer Mason of the Knights of Peter Claver.



Ferdinand L. Rousseve, the first licensed Negro Architect in Louisiana.



Mae Callico, typical trained nurse
of New Orleans.



Iona Berteaux, Principal of James
Lewis School.



Ernest Wright, militant labor organizer of
New Orleans.



Frederick J. Dumas, active in teacher
unions; former president of Classroom
Federation of Teachers.

GLANCING AHEAD

. . . and every patriot knows that the United States is the hope of the world. Into its civilization have entered not one but many races. All go forth against a common enemy; all must share the duties and the privileges of citizenship. In such a country the law can know no difference of race or class or creed, provided all are devoted to the general welfare. Such is the obligation resting upon the United States—a challenge of economic, social, and moral questions such as never before faced the children of men. That it be worthy of its opportunity all would hope; to the fulfillment of its destiny all would help. The eyes of the world are upon it; the scepter of the ages is in its hand.

—BENJAMIN BRAWLEY

Today the vital issues facing America are education, democracy and defense. The solution and clarification of these problems depends upon a judicious appraisal of all factors concerned. The time has come when men can no longer allow prejudice and bias to stand in the way of reason and progress.

One thing is certain, America can never be a real democracy until every portion of its population is guaranteed the civil liberties which is its due. Education facilities, democratic privileges and defense jobs must be proportionately distributed to all segments of the population.

The South, in particular, must scrap its age-old policies of segregation and discrimination if it is to continue to advance as a cultural entity. The dual system of government can never be effective, because the foundation upon which it is constructed is not solid or strong enough to withstand the onslaughts of time. Decent living and working conditions are requisites which black and white, alike, have a right to enjoy.

Someday a better plan of race relationships will evolve. Already there are positive indications that the tendency is towards a more intelligent view of the role the Negro is portraying in American history.

Here, in New Orleans, a great deal remains to be done before better inter-racial conditions exist. Right now the Negro is living on the very fringe of society; someday he will become an integral part of the American scheme. Then he will be viewed as a vital factor in the conduct of this government not as an isolated entity.

In the subsequent pages, our readers will find brief biographical sketches of some of the men and women, whom we believe, are exerting

a positive influence upon the progress and the welfare of the Negro in New Orleans. We believe that every Colored citizen who takes a step forward brings us in closer contact with our goal of complete spiritual and political emancipation. After all, what the Negro really desires is the full measure of liberties and privileges which are his constitutional right.

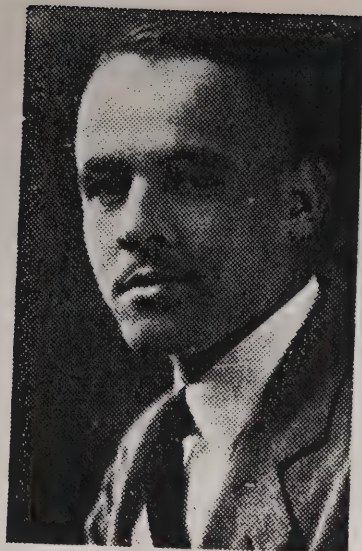
In still later pages, we have presented views which we believe will give a "cross-section" of Negro life in New Orleans, that is, in its finer elements. Since we have tried to show the flight of the Colored citizen, in most cases, we have presented the assets and omitted an overplay of existing liabilities. This we have done, with a hope that our readers will dwell more upon constructive measures of improvement in the future instead of deploring many conditions of an adverse nature that time alone will readjust.



Typical play scene in Negro section. One of basic local needs is better recreational facilities, etc.



Lawyer Tureaud, local attorney.



Archie Arnaud, Principal of Medard Nelson School.



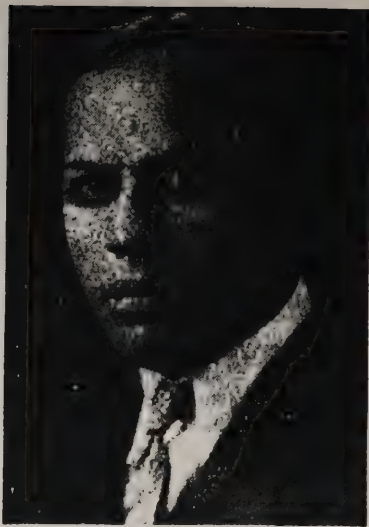
Huntington Dusau, Manager of the Calhope Street Housing Project.



Father Bourges, New Orleans bred priest.



Luther Higginbotham, typical New
Orleanian army inductee.



Alfred "Zack" Priestly, Coach at Xavier
Prep, one of South's most efficient
mentors.



Cecelia Eugene, instructor at the Y. M. C.
A. Business School.



Arthur Chapital, Civic leader and pioneer
of Colored postal alliance.



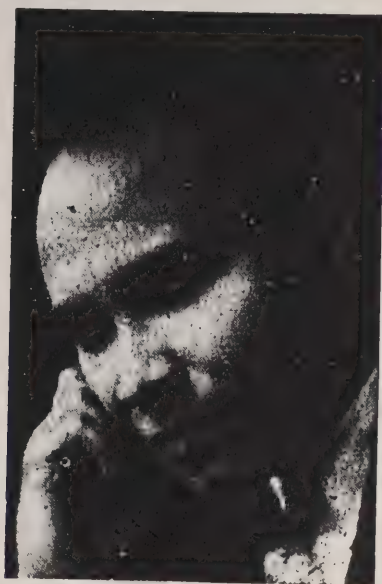
Ethel Johnson Young, Prominent Civic and Educational worker of New Orleans.



Fannie Roche Jones, Claverite (Auxiliary) leader of Louisiana.



Numa J. Rousséve, Art Instructor at Xavier University.



George Carpenter, Instructor of French at McDonogh 35 High School.



Eudora Haydel, popular matron.



Marie Algere, typical parochial school teacher.



Onelia Gabriel, Registrar at Xavier University.



Mildred Montegut, Secretary of the Louisiana Weekly.



Holman Williams in a New Orleans appearance. Top-notch local pugilists include: "Young" Polite, Willie Brent, Gene O'Dell and Herbert Williams.



National Eucharistic Congress Session at, Xavier.



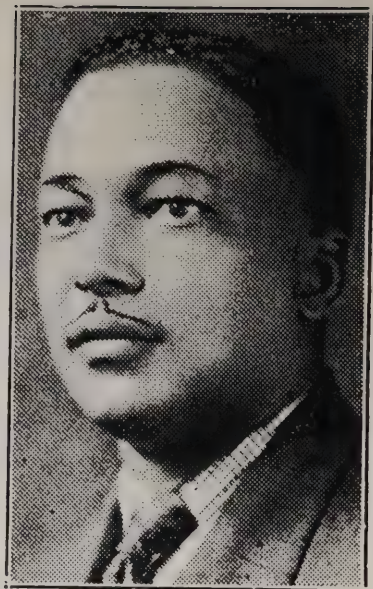
Student Council Group at Dillard mapping plans.



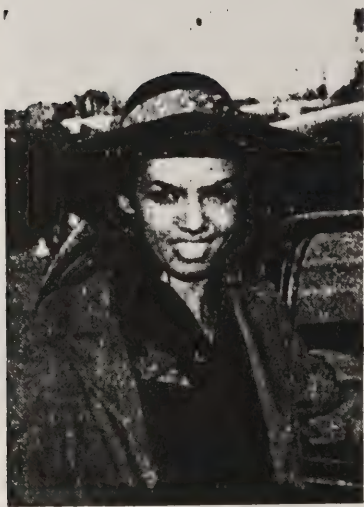
Picturesque view of Flint Goodridge Hospital on Louisiana Avenue.



Hurve Rachal, Graduate of Catholic University, popular tenor.



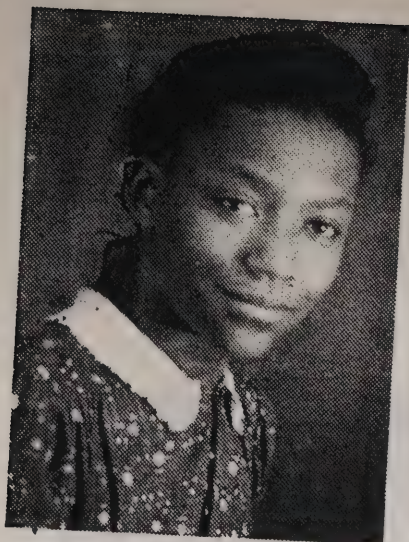
George McDemmond, dynamic salesman and business man of New Orleans.



Cecile Townsend, local pharmacist.



Neomi Lavizzo, teacher at Craig School.



Freddie Warden, typical public school pupil.



Helen Netters, queen of Lafon Elementary School.



Loretta Claude, lovely teen-age daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ahner Claude.



Charlotte Marie Narcisse, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Narcisse.



Local Negroes securing registration papers (La. still maintains a White Primary).



Negro youth participating in Mardi Gras festival.



War Stamp booth at local college; Negro youth of New Orleans are unswerving in their patriotism.



Choir of Gilbert Academy.



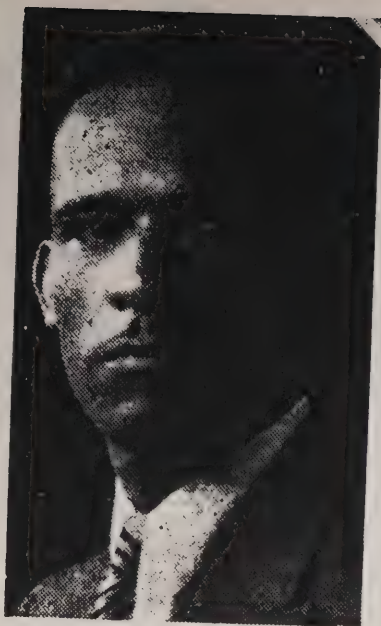
Scene in Physics lab of Xavier University.



Two young school lovers, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Rousseau.



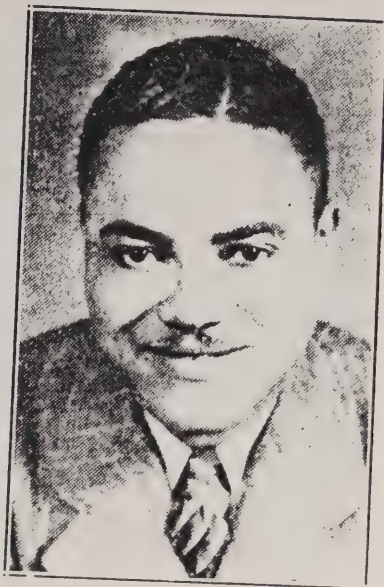
Elliot Keyes, Assistant Manager of
Lafitte Project.



Maurice Martinez, Industrial Art teacher.



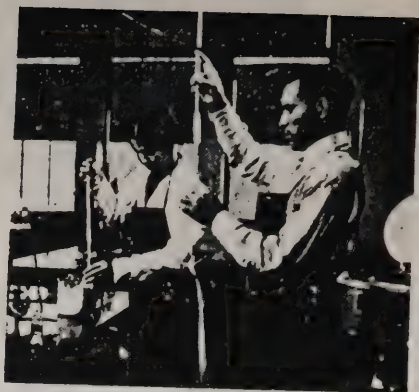
Dan Turner, former independent
footballer.



Flournoy Coles, now enrolled at Penn. U.



Future chemists at work in Xavier's well-appointed laboratories.



Biology lab of Xavier.



Physics Laboratory of Xavier University.



Javelin thrower in Xavier Stadium.



Young son of Dr. and Mrs. C. C. Haydel.



Judith Bartholomew, daughter of
Mrs. Zona Bartholomew.



Charming daughters of Mr. and Mrs.
Ferdinand L. Rousseve.



Dolores Sykes, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Sykes.



Herbert Mitchell, now in Pearl Harbor. Sylvester Ina, promising young journalist.



Lloyd Thompson, Franklin, La. teacher, the finest high jumper to hail from La.

Cross Country Runners of Xavier.



Soldiers being entertained by Phy. Ed. Dept. of Xavier University.



War Bond and Stamp Drive being initiated at local college.



Sergeant Felix Alexis, local boy at
Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.



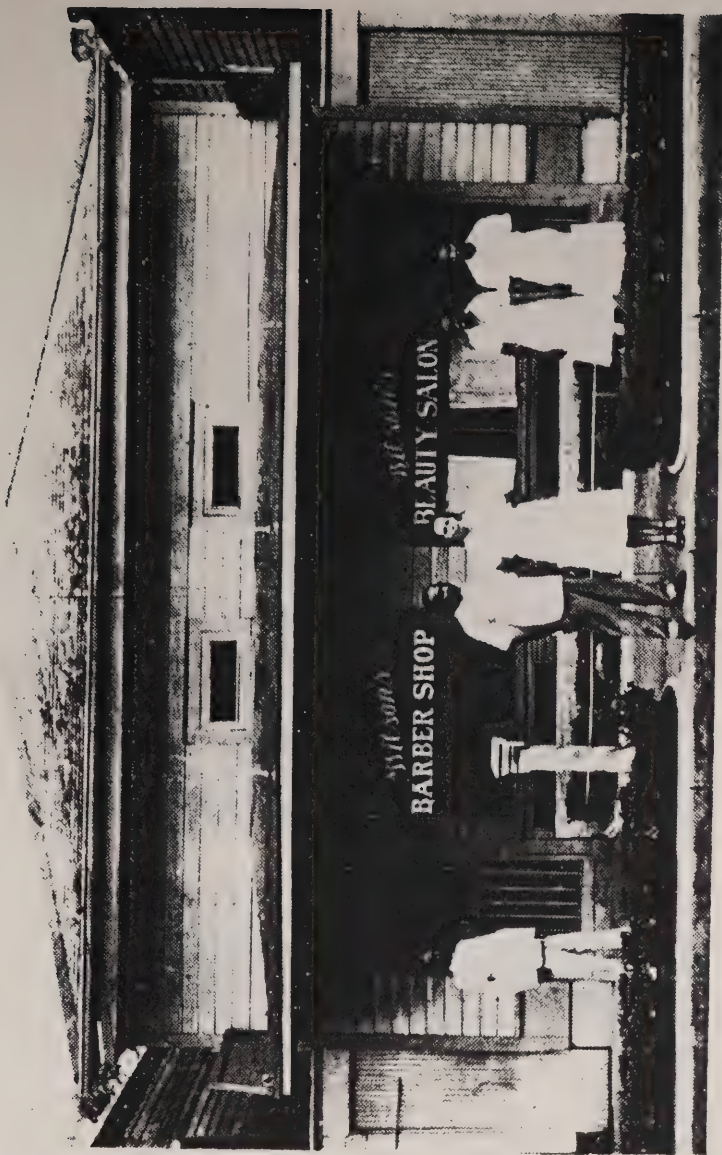
Sergeant Jos. Azemard located at Station
Hospital, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.



Walter Dubuclet, former Xavier student
now in the armed forces. He hails from
White Castle, La.



Wellington Parker, pharmacy grad at
Xavier now in Officers' Training Camp.



Wilson's Barber Shop, located in New Orleans' Garden District



St. Mary's Academy queen and maids, '41.



"Characteristic Scene in Vieux Carré"

*"This is the land, where hate should die,
No feuds of faith—no spleen of race;
No darkly brooding fear,
Beneath our flag should find a place."*

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